【推しの子】

赤坂アカ　横槍メンゴ

4

OSHI NO KO
the fourth
volume.

YOUNG JUMP COMICS

OSHI NO KO

【推しの子】

4

赤坂アカ × 横槍メンゴ

OSHI NO KO

OSHI NO KO ❹ CONTENTS

第三十一話 …… 005
第三十二話 …… 023
第三十三話 …… 043
第三十四話 …… 061
第三十五話 …… 079
第三十六話 …… 097
第三十七話 …… 115
第三十八話 …… 133
第三十九話 …… 153
第 四十 話 …… 171

★この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・団体・事件などには、いっさい関係ありません。
Ripped & Compiled by Oak

プロローグ 幼年期 人物紹介

【星野アイ】
HOSHINO AI

アイドルグループ"B小町"の絶対的センターとして活躍。

【斉藤壱護】
SAITO ICHIGO

アイの所属する芸能事務所・苺プロダクションの社長。

夫婦

所属事務所

【斉藤ミヤコ】
SAITO MIYAKO

【五反田泰志】
GOTANDA TAISHI

アイとアクアが出演した映画の監督。

【有馬かな】
ARIMA KANA

同映画の撮影現場で出会った10秒で泣ける天才子役。

双子

【星野愛久愛海】
HOSHINO AQUAMARINE

通称・アクア。

【星野瑠美衣】
HOSHINO RUBY

通称・ルビー。

転生

転生

ゴロー
GORO

地方都市で産婦人科医として勤務。元々のアイ推しだが、妊娠中の彼女をストーカーから守る犠牲となり死亡。

さりな
SARINA

ゴローが勤務していた病院の入院患者。難病により12歳で他界。双子は互いに正体に気付いていない。

患者

あらすじ

推しのアイドル・星野アイの"子"に転生し、前世の記憶を持ったまま"赤ちゃんライフ"を満喫する双子のアクアとルビー。アイは、妊娠・出産を隠して嘘を貫いたまま、芸能界のスターダムを駆け上がっていた。しかし、初のドーム公演を控えた20歳の誕生日、当日。とあるファンに殺害されてしまう…。そして、十数年の時が経ち、ルビーはアイのように"輝く"為、アクアは"復讐"の為、"芸能界"に飛び込む!!

第三章
恋愛リアリティショー編

第二章
芸能界
人物紹介

【黒川あかね】
KUROKAWA AKANE
『劇団ララライ』所属の若きエース。アイすらも完全に演じきる天才。

【MEMちょ】
MEMCYO
"バズらせのプロ"として活躍するユーチューバー。

【ぴえヨン】
PIEYON
『苺プロ』所属の覆面筋トレ系ユーチューバー。年収1億円。

【星野愛久愛海】
HOSHINO AQUAMARINE
陽東高校一般科1年生。通称・アクア。

【星野瑠美衣】
HOSHINO RUBY
陽東高校芸能科1年生。通称・ルビー。

【有馬かな】
ARIMA KANA
陽東高校芸能科2年生。アクアに誘われ『苺プロ』に加入し、アイドルへ転身。通称・重曹。

【鏑木勝也】
KABURAGI MASAYA
ネットドラマ『今日あま』プロデューサー。アイの過去を知る人物。

……第三章ではアクアは、恋愛リアリティショーへ出演!! あくまで鏑木からアイの過去の話を聞く為の交換条件で参加したのだが…そこで目撃したのは、恋愛リアリティショーの光と闇。〝演出〟に翻弄されるあかねが火種となり、SNSでの炎上が勃発。あかねは自殺未遂をするまで追い込まれる。看過出来ないアクアが中心となり事態は無事に収束。そして、あかねに利用価値を見出したアクアは意図的にカップルに!?

Translated by Felicia Sumali
Lettered by YKS Services, LLC
Edited by Jordan Reynolds
MEDIA DO Co. Ltd. / YKS Services LLC / SKY Japan, INC.

【推しの子】

AKA AKASAKA x MENGO YOKOYARI

CHAPTER 31

GOOD WORK, GUYS!

WE'VE FINISHED FILMING THE BEGINNING OF MY LOVE WITH AN IDOL!

CHAPTER 31
MY LOVE

IT ALL HAPPENED IN A FLASH, DIDN'T IT?

CAN WE GET TO THE POINT AND ASK THIS NOW...?

SO...?

LEAN

LEAN

IF AKANE SAYS SO, WE CAN'T COMPLAIN, EITHER.

A LOT OF THINGS HAPPENED, BUT IT WAS FUN.

THE FINAL KISS!

ARE YOU REALLY GOING OUT WITH HIM?!

WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT?!

...

I DON'T KNOW.

WE JUST WENT WITH THE FLOW DURING THE SHOW,

AND I HAVE MY CAREER. I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR A BOYFRIEND...

YOU MAY BE AN ENTERTAINER, BUT A HIGH SCHOOLER LIKE YOU CAN HAVE A BOYFRIEND OR TWO!

WHAT ABOUT YOU, YUKI? ARE YOU ***CHANGING*** ONE BOYFRIEND AFTER ANOTHER?

DO YOU SEE ME THAT WAY?

FOR YOUR INFORMATION, MY JOB IS MY NUMBER ONE PRIORITY.

I'VE NEVER HAD A BOYFRIEND BEFORE.

NO WAY!

I THINK SHE'S TELLING THE TRUTH.

SOMEONE FROM HER PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT SAID THE SAME THING.

SHE'S SURPRISINGLY CHASTE, HUH?

THERE ARE QUITE A NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIKE THAT AROUND MODELS, YOU KNOW?

AND THE RATIO OF IDOLS AND ACTRESSES IS THE SAME AS THAT OF ORDINARY PEOPLE.

BUT ONLY A FEW OF THEM WILL REALLY SAY NO TO ROMANCE.

THEY'RE STILL OCCASIONALLY EXPOSED TO SCANDALS, AFTER ALL.

IN THAT SENSE, IT WON'T BE A SCANDAL IF YOU GO OUT ON THE SHOW, SO IT'S OKAY, RIGHT?

BUT...

THAT'S RIGHT.

WE WANT YOU TO USE THIS SHOW TO GET ALONG.

IT'S THE COUPLE'S FREEDOM TO DECIDE WHETHER THEY WANT TO CONTINUE THEIR RELATIONSHIP OR BREAK UP.

HOWEVER, FROM HERE ON OUT, THE SHOW WON'T BE PART OF YOUR LIFE ANYMORE.

BUT THERE ARE ALSO PEOPLE WHO'LL CALL THEMSELVES A COUPLE FOR A FEW MONTHS JUST TO KEEP UP APPEAR-ANCES.

Notificati

We've decided to break up.

THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO'LL CONTINUE TO GO OUT AND GET MARRIED,

...AND DECIDE FOR YOURSELF.

THINK ABOUT IT CAREFULLY...

THERE ARE A LOT OF BAD ADULTS WHO JUST WANT TO USE YOUR TALENT BEFORE THEY THROW YOU AWAY, YOU KNOW?

YOU'LL FIND A LOT OF TEMPTATIONS IN THIS INDUSTRY.

BUT THOSE WHO GET CARRIED AWAY BY THEIR SURROUNDINGS EASILY WILL END UP IN HELL.

WELL, THAT'S A PIECE OF ADVICE FROM THE SO-CALLED BAD ADULT.

HA HA HA.

SPEAKING OF,

WHERE DID THE BAD KID GO?

I WASN'T WRONG FOR CHOOSING YOU, AFTER ALL.

MY LOVE HAS A GOOD REPUTATION.

I HEARD YOU'RE THE ONE WHO FIXED EVERYTHING WITH YOUR SKILLS.

IT ONLY GOT A LOT OF ATTENTION AFTER AKANE WAS FLAMED ONLINE.

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT.

SO THEY WERE SURPRISED WHEN THEY SAW IT.

IN THIS INDUSTRY, WE HAVE AN IRON RULE NOT TO LEAK UNEDITED VIDEOS,

0:01 / 0:15

...WAS A BIT OF A PAIN IN THE NECK FOR THE HIGHER-UPS.

BUT THAT VIDEO YOU MADE...

WMEN

THEY EVEN TALKED ABOUT SUING STRAWBERRY PRODUCTIONS.

EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE ONE OF THE PERFORMERS, YOU STILL BROKE THE RULE.

DID THEY?

BUT THEY DIDN'T DO IT,

WE DID OUR JOB PROPERLY WITHOUT VIOLATING THE CONTRACT.

THAT'S WHY WE UPLOADED THE VIDEO THERE.

THE CONTRACT SAYS THAT THE PERFORMERS ARE ALLOWED TO UPLOAD CANDID SHOTS ON THE SHOW'S OFFICIAL ACCOUNTS.

YOU'RE PRETTY SHREWD, AREN'T YOU?

THANKS.

ON TOP OF THAT, YOU KEPT YOUR CONTRACT WITH ME AND DID A GOOD JOB.

IT'S TIME FOR ME TO GIVE YOU YOUR REWARD, EH?

FSHH

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO EAT SUSHI NEXT WEEK?

I'LL GIVE YOU SOME INFORMATION ABOUT AI.

I'LL KEEP THAT DATE OPEN.

OH, AQUA.

COME HERE FOR A SEC!

YOU CAN'T RUN AWAY!

BIBINMEN

UM, AQUA-KUN.

WHAT NOW?

I KNOW THAT, BUT...

SO WE HAVE TO BE A COUPLE FOR A WHILE.

THAT EPISODE WILL BE BROAD-CAST,

WHAT NOW...?

YEAH.

IN THAT CASE....

I MEAN...

GRIT

UM...

IS OUR RELATION-SHIP...

...PART OF A JOB?

OR IS IT REAL?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.

WELL, I WOULDN'T SAY IT'S JUST PART OF A JOB...

YOU DON'T SEE ME...

...AS THE OPPOSITE SEX, DO YOU?

WELL...

I KNOW THAT MUCH.

BUT YOU DON'T SEE ME, AKANE, IN THE SAME WAY, RIGHT?

YOU MIGHT THINK WELL OF ME WHEN I'M PLAYING MY CHARACTER,

...

I DON'T SEE YOU...

...AS THE OPPOSITE SEX, INDEED.

...

HOW-EVER,

TO ME, DATING IS JUST AN *EXTENSION* OF MY WORK.

I'M HIGHLY INTERESTED IN YOU...

...AS AN ACTRESS.

THAT ALONE ISN'T A LIE.

OH, WELL. IT'S ALL GOOD.

...

I SEE.

THOSE WORDS MAKE ME HAPPIEST, AFTER ALL.

WHAT?

WE ALREADY HAVE YUKI AND NOBU-KUN AS A REAL COUPLE, ANYWAY.

LET'S BE A COUPLE AS A JOB, THEN.

...HAVE STARTED DATING EACH OTHER RECENTLY.

THOSE TWO...

DON'T YOU REALIZE?

BUT I LIKE THAT SIDE OF HER.

SLY, ISN'T SHE?

BUT SHE DUMPED HIM DURING THE FILM-ING...

FOR REAL?

I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THAT.

...

IT SEEMS THAT...

...HE'S TRULY HER FIRST BOY-FRIEND.

AREN'T YOU GOING TO CATCH A TAXI?

NO. MY HOUSE IS WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE.

COME TO THINK OF IT, WE'RE PRETTY MUCH NEIGHBORS, HUH?

WELL, MOST PEOPLE IN THE INDUSTRY LIVE AROUND HERE.

I FEEL LONELY ALREADY.

I LOVED EVERYONE ON THE SET.

IT'S JUST A BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP.

YOU'RE AKANE'S BOYFRIEND, AFTER ALL.

IN YOUR CASE, YOU WON'T BE *THAT* LONELY, HUH?

...

I SEE.

BIBINMEN

BIBINMEN

NEVER.

SOONER OR LATER, YOU MIGHT REALLY END UP BEING A COUPLE.

THAT'S A GOOD START, ISN'T IT?

SO WHAT? EVERYONE ADORES B-KOMACHI!

EVEN THOUGH B-KOMACHI ISN'T FROM YOUR GENERATION.

BY THE WAY, YOU KNOW A LOT ABOUT AI, HUH?

DON'T TELL ANYONE, BUT...

...

BIG TALK...

...FOR SOMEONE WHOSE FACE TURNED ALL RED WHEN AKANE WAS PLAYING AI.

...

...I ORIGINALLY WANTED TO BE AN IDOL.

WHY DON'T YOU WORK FOR OUR AGENCY, THEN?

HMM.

I'M DOING WELL AS A YOUTUBER, THOUGH!

HOWEVER, THINGS HAPPENED AND I LOST HEART.

THE NEW B-KOMACHI...

...IS LOOK-ING FOR MORE MEMBERS.

THE NEW B-KOMA-CHI...

...IS LOOK-ING FOR MORE MEMBERS.

BIBINMEN

A MEMBER OF B-KOMACHI...? ME?

HA HA HA.

YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?

Translation by Patricia Sumeri
Lettering by Yuko Ikeshiro, LLC
Edited by Jordan Worthington
KADOKAWA CORPORATION / TOKYO Translation Unit / 2021 Kadokawa Corp.

CHAPTER 32: APPROPRIATE AGE

AKA AKASAKA × MEMEYO YAMAMOTO

...

(株)苺プロ
斉藤

Sign:
Strawberry Productions Inc.
Saito

...

I SHOULD'VE HIRED YOU AS A SCOUT, HUH?

THE FAMOUS YOU-TUBER AND INFLU-ENCER,

"MEM."

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE INTER-ESTED IN BECOMING AN IDOL. WHAT A SURPRISE.

おすすめ

YOU SEEM TO BE VERY POPULAR ONLINE.

...AND 638,000 FOLLOWERS ON TIKTOK.

YOU HAVE 370,000 SUBSCRIBERS ON YOUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL...

AT THE MOMENT, AN AGENCY CALLED FARM IS SUPPORTING ME,

BUT I'M NOT AFFILIATED TO THEM. WE'RE JUST ***BUSINESS PARTNERS.***

I'M SELF-EMPLOYED. I DO ALL THE STREAMING MYSELF.

MY FIRST QUESTION IS, WHO IS YOUR AGENT?

I SEE.

IN THAT CASE, STRAWBERRY PRODUCTIONS CAN REQUEST YOU FOR SOME IDOL WORK, RIGHT?

THE CONTRACT SAYS THAT I'M FREE TO TAKE ANY JOBS I WANT. THERE'S NO PROBLEM.

Poster: Pieyon

ぴえヨン

WE'VE EMPLOYED A LOT OF INTERNET TALENT OURSELVES.

THERE SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM WITH THE CONTRACT.

IF ANYTHING, THIS FEELS LIKE A TIMELY OFFER, BUT...

...THAT FACE OF YOURS.

IS THERE ANYTHING YOU *MUST* TELL ME?

...

OH, WELL. I THINK I CAN GUESS.

!

...FAKING YOUR AGE, AREN'T YOU?

YOU'RE...

TEE HEE!

DON'T BE AFRAID.

YEAH.

YOUR PHYSIQUE MAKES YOU LOOK YOUNGER, BUT YOU CAN'T FOOL ME.

YOU CAN TELL?

REALLY...?

I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT.

PHEW

I DON'T MIND.

IT'S COMMON FOR AN INDIVIDUAL TALENT TO LIE ABOUT THEIR AGE.

UM...

WELL...

SO?

HOW OLD ARE YOU, REALLY?

HM, HM.

WHISPER

WHISPER

WHISPER

WHISPER

WHISPER

...

THAT'S A BIG GAP!!

I'M SORRY!

THE WORLD KNOWS YOU AS AN 18 YEAR OLD.

YOU'VE SURE GOT GUTS, HUH?

One...

Two...

Three...

STOP COUNT-ING, PLEASE!!

HOW BIG IS THE GAP?

THREE YEARS?

...

DOUBLE THAT NUMBER.

THAT'S HUGE!

SO YOU'RE 24?

I...

...WAS. UNTIL AROUND SPRING.

SO YOU'RE 25.

STOP RESISTING ALREADY. IT'S TOO LATE.

I MEAN, YOU'RE 25, BUT YOU CLAIMED TO BE A HIGH SCHOOLER AND APPEARED IN TV SHOWS.

IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH YOU?

THERE'S A REASON FOR THAT!!

MEMcho

推し

推し

BEING AN IDOL...

...HAS ALWAYS BEEN MY DREAM.

Heart (both): My idol, A

BUT MY MOM IS A SINGLE PARENT, AND I HAVE TWO LITTLE BROTHERS.

Your Career Path

1 Getting a job right away

2

I THOUGHT IT'D BE BETTER IF I JUST WENT STRAIGHT TO WORK.

I'LL DO MY BEST, TOO.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT US. JUST FOLLOW YOUR DREAM!

BUT MY MOM...

I EVEN MADE IT TO THE LAST ROUND OF A MAJOR COMPANY'S AUDITION.

AFTER THAT, I STARTED TO APPLY FOR AUDITIONS.

MY MOTHER...

...WAS HOSPITALIZED DUE TO OVERWORK.

HOWEVER,

WHEN I WAS IN MY THIRD YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL...

I WANTED MY TWO BROTHERS TO GO TO COLLEGE,

SO I NEEDED MONEY.

I TURNED DOWN THE AUDITION,

TOOK A TEMPORARY ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL, AND START-ED TO WORK.

I WORKED PART-TIME TO EARN MONEY. I ALSO WORKED AT A GIRLS' BAR.

THANKS TO THAT, MY BROTHERS WERE ABLE TO GO TO COLLEGE,

AND MY MOM ALSO RECOVERED.

BUT...

...I WAS 23 THEN.

EVERY AUDITION HAD "GIRLS UP TO 20 YEARS OLD" AS THEIR REQUIREMENT.

IN THIS WORLD, GIRLS OVER 20 ARE CONSIDERED OLD LADIES.

▶応募資格
・満12歳～満20歳ま
・2次審査以後の審査
・審査過程において、
・地方お住まいの方で、

Application

Qualification Requirement
- From 12 years old to 20 years old
- After the second examination
- In the examination process
- For those who live in the provinces

I WAS TOO OLD FOR THAT ALREADY.

THE MOMENT I WAS READY TO PURSUE MY DREAM,

AT THAT TIME, I WAS STILL ON LEAVE FROM HIGH SCHOOL.

HAVING NOWHERE TO GO, I TURNED MY PASSION INTO STREAMING.

I GOT MORE AND MORE SUBSCRIB-ERS!

BEFORE I KNEW IT, I HAD GONE TOO FAR TO RETREAT, YOU KNOW?

I WAS ACTING LIKE A HIGH SCHOOLER, HA HA.

UNEXPECT-EDLY, PEOPLE LOVED THAT IDEA.

IT'S BEEN ABOUT TWO YEARS SINCE THEN...

...AND HERE I AM NOW.

IT'S HOPELESS AFTER ALL, HUH?

I'M FAKING MY AGE BY SEVEN YEARS.

IF PEOPLE FIND OUT, WE'LL ALL BE IN TROUBLE.

HOW CAN A 25-YEAR-OLD GIRL BE AN IDOL...?

THAT'S NOT TRUE.

IN THE FLESH!

YOU'RE MEM CHO!

SHAKE

SOOO CUTE...!!

SHAKE

SHAKE

WE HEARD EVERY-THING.

ARIMA.

SOB

PEOPLE WERE TALKING ABOUT MY AGE BEFORE,

SO I UNDER-STAND HER FEELINGS A LITTLE.

UM, IT'S NOT JUST A LITTLE.

SOB

OBVI-OUSLY NOT!

THAT'S WHY I'M NOT AGAINST IT.

WHAT ABOUT YOU, RUBY?

IT WAS SO FRUS-TRATING.

WHEN I WAS A CHILD ACTOR, MY AGENCY FIRED ME THE MOMENT I ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL.

YOU CAN'T STOP LONGING, CAN YOU?

BEING AN IDOL HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOUR AGE.

WELCOME TO B-KOMACHI!

ARIMA,

PLEASE TAKE GOOD CARE OF RUBY AND MEM.

THERE WE HAVE IT. MY SISTER AND HER FINE SPEECH AGAIN.

SHUT THE HELL UP. DON'T TALK TO ME SO FRIENDLY LIKE THAT.

ANYWAY, YOU DON'T NEED TO TELL ME THAT. I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS GROUP NO MATTER WHAT.

YOU LADY-KILLER.

WHY DON'T YOU ASK AKANE KUROKAWA INSTEAD?

BLEH

AND THUS,

MEM-CHO HAS JOINED OUR GROUP.

WHY ARE YOU SO WELCOM-ING?

WHAT'S WITH YOU, GUYS?

YEAH, LET'S!

HEY, LET'S GO EAT DINNER TOGETHER.

THE NEW B-KOMA-CHI...
...IS OFFICIALLY STARTING NOW.

【推しの子】

CHAPTER 33
MOTIVATION

MY LOVE IS OVER ALREADY.

AH...

HOW DO I FEEL?

HEY, HEY. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT YOUR BROTHER KISSING ON THE SHOW?

WHOA.

IT WAS *FIVE TIMES* MORE AWKWARD THAN WATCHING A KISS SCENE BETWEEN SIBLINGS ON TV.

I GUESS NOT.

I'VE GOT *MIXED FEELINGS* ABOUT IT. NEED I SAY MORE?

Translated by Felicia Sumali
Lettered by YKS Services, LLC
Edited by Jordan Reynolds
MEDIA·DO Co. Ltd. / YKS Services LLC / SKY Japan, INC.

BUT...

GIRL-FRIEND...

SHE'S YOUR BROTHER'S *GIRLFRIEND*, AFTER ALL.

WELL, SOONER OR LATER, YOU'LL MEET AKANE-CHAN IN PERSON, RIGHT?

...ARE MOST LIKELY ...

AQUA'S FEELINGS FOR AKANE...

ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT MY LOVE?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE CONSID-ERATE...

IT WAS INTEREST-ING.

I KNOW SOMEONE WHO APPEARED IN THAT SHOW.

YOU KNOW ABOUT IT, TOO?

OH, YES.

A FEAST FOR THE EYES?!

THE SHOW WAS FULL OF HUNKS AND PRETTY GIRLS. IT WAS DEFINITELY A *FEAST FOR THE EYES.*

SHE'S PRETTY FUNNY!

I THINK MY EYESIGHT HAS IMPROVED BY 0.5.

IT WAS GOOD FOR MY EYES, REALLY.

NO ONE HATES PEOPLE WITH GOOD LOOKS, RIGHT?

EVEN A TOP STAR LIKE YOU SAYS SOMETHING LIKE THAT, HUH?

PERSONALLY, I'D LIKE TO SEE MEM-CHO AS A ***MAIDEN IN LOVE.***

IF I WERE ONE OF THE GUYS, I'D DEFINITELY GO FOR HER.

THEY SHOULD'VE BEEN MORE ***AGGRESSIVE,*** DON'T YOU THINK?

SHIRANUI-SAN LOOKS COOL ON TV,

BUT THIS IS WHAT SHE'S LIKE BEHIND THE SCENES, HUH?

ACTUALLY, THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE LIKE THAT.

IT'S NOT EASY FOR FUNNY GIRLS TO BE POPULAR BECAUSE MEN SEE THEM AS RIVALS INSTEAD OF FALLING FOR HER.

THAT'S WHY PEOPLE WHO SELL THEMSELVES AS POLISHED GIRLS CAN'T JOKE AROUND.

These girls tend to be more interesting in real life than they are on TV.

She's funnier than me.

HA HA HA

SO CUTE!

THAT'S TERRIBLE.

AQUA-SAN MADE MY HEART ***SKIP A BEAT.*** IT MIGHT JUST BE BECAUSE I KNOW HIM,

BUT I THINK EVERYONE FEELS THE SAME WAY.

...BUT EVERYONE KNOWS THAT HE HAS A GIRLFRIEND, SO THEY CAN ONLY LIE IN WAIT NOW.

SOME PEOPLE FROM THE PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAM ARE INTERESTED IN HIM, TOO...

AQUA NII-SAN IS QUITE POPULAR AMONG THE GENERAL COURSE GIRLS.

よくわかるインターネット

Book: Understanding the Internet

MY LOVE WAS REALLY HIGH PROFILE.

IT BECAME A BIG SHOW THAT WILL DEFINITELY AFFECT MY BROTHER'S FUTURE,

BUT NOT ONLY THAT, IT HAD A BIG IMPACT ON B-KOMACHI AS WELL.

B-Komachi Channel!

SUBSCRIBE

HOME VIDEOS PL CHANNEL ABOUT

To the first timers!
If you're a novice in anything B-Komachi, you can first check these videos...☆

SORT BY

WE'VE GOT 10,000 SUB-SCRIBERS!

YAY

WE WERE ABLE TO MAKE AUTHENTIC VIDEOS FOR OUR CHANNEL.

TALK

Enough with the "hiss" thing!
ヒャーってやっておしまい！

IF WE DIDN'T GET THIS MANY, WE'D BE IN TROUBLE.

WELL, I USED MY CHANNEL TO PROMOTE IT.

WITH MEM-CHO ON THE TEAM,

WHAT, WE WEREN'T OFFICIAL BEFORE?

IT FEELS LIKE WE'RE OFFICIAL NOW!

SOME-HOW,

THE PRESIDENT IS ASKING SOME ARTISTS SHE KNOWS TO HELP US.

ANY NEWS ON THE MUSIC DEPART-MENT?

IF POSSIBLE, I WANT TO UPLOAD MUSIC VIDEOS SOON.

SO FAR, WE'VE ONLY DONE SELF-INTRODUC-TIONS.

SO JUST TAKE IT EASY.

...AND IT'S GOING TO TAKE A WHILE,

BASICALLY, WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING UNTIL THE SONG IS DONE...

THE PREVIOUS B-KOMACHI HAS SONGS FOR US, RIGHT?

DID YOU FORGET THAT WE'RE THE NEW B-KOMACHI?

IN YOUR DREAMS.

Book: Understanding the Internet

TSK!

THEY REALIZED IT...

MEM-CHO, YOU'RE A GENIUS!

THAT'S RIGHT!

OH, I GET IT!

IT'S OKAY FOR US TO USE THE OLD SONGS!

AREN'T YOU TORTURING YOURSELF?

IF WE TAKE IT EASY, WE'LL BE 30 BEFORE WE KNOW IT!

EVEN NOW, THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS WE CAN DO!

LET'S START PRACTICING OUR DANCE MOVES!

WHAT MAKES US BEAUTIFUL ...

...YET TIRING AT THE SAME TIME!

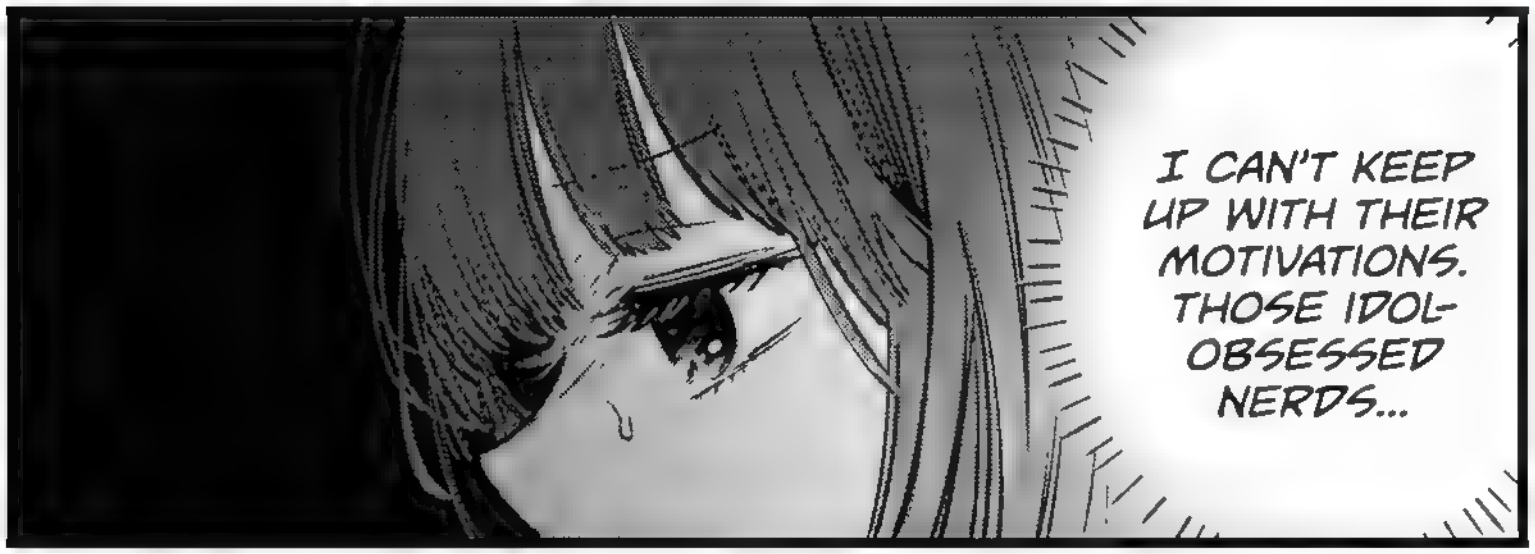
THE FIRST DUTY AS AN IDOL!

Book B
Dashing and Stunning! Komachi in Its Entirety!
B-Komachi's legendary live concert complete recording!

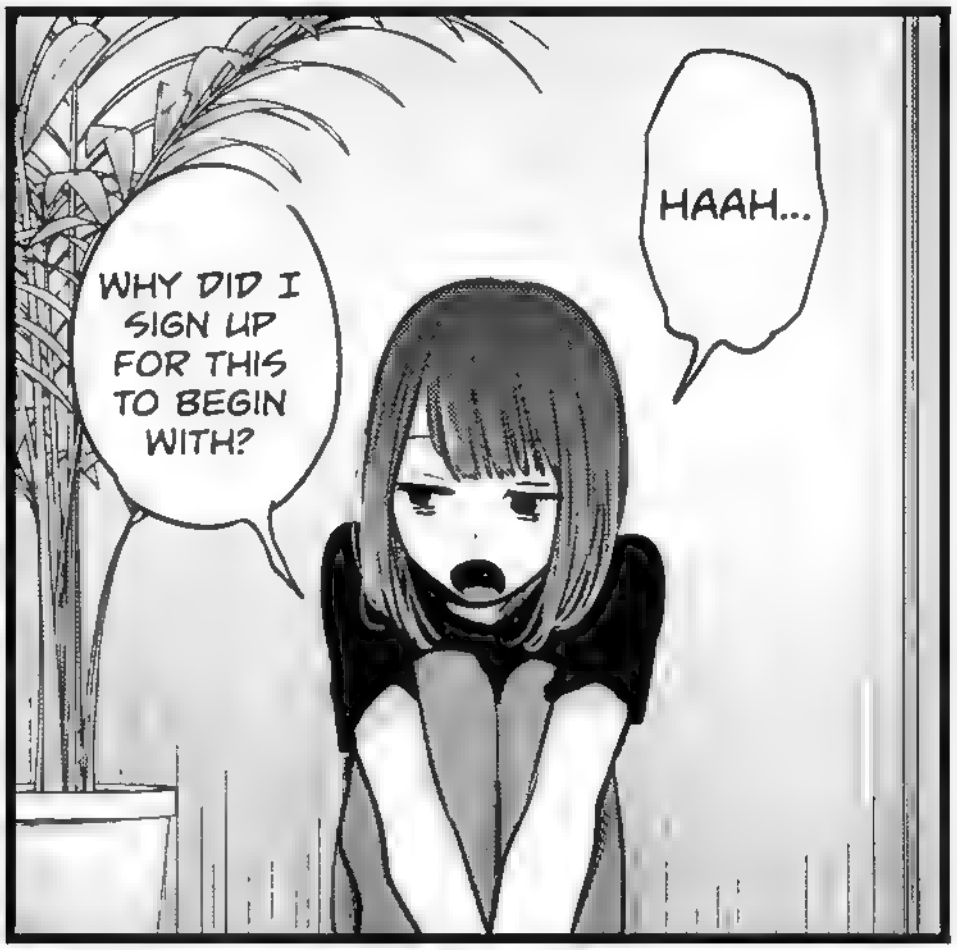
Book D Komachi Live!

WE'RE NOT GOING TO MEMORIZE THEM ALL, ARE WE?
THERE ARE 30 CHOREO-GRAPHED SONGS LEFT IN THE VIDEO.

DANCE STUDIO


I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH THEIR MOTIVATIONS. THOSE IDOL-OBSESSED NERDS...

GOOD WORK, ARIMA.


WHY DID I SIGN UP FOR THIS TO BEGIN WITH?
HAAH...

THA—

...

I DON'T NEED IT!

JUST GO AWAY!

ARIMA,

YOU'VE BEEN COLD TOWARD ME LATELY.

THUNK

I KNOW YOU HAVE A FOUL MOUTH AND AN ATTITUDE,

BUT...

...CUT IT OUT ALREADY. I GET HURT TOO, YOU KNOW.

WHAT THE HECK?

YOU...

...START-ED IT.

...!

YOU...!

A—

AQUA...!

Sign: Sushi

WHY DO YOU WANT TO KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT AI-KUN?

...IS LIKE DIGGING UP SOMEONE'S GRAVE.

WHAT WE'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT...

DO YOU NEED ANY OTHER REASON?

THERE'S NO WAY OUT OF IT.

I'M A HUGE FAN OF HERS.

THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS IN THIS REGARD.

YOUR FANTASY AS A FAN WILL COME TO NOTHING IF YOU KNOW THE TRUTH.

WITH ATTRACTIVE MATERIALS COME ATTRACTIVE LIES.

WE CREATE A CHARACTER THAT DOESN'T EXIST IN REALITY.

THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY, SO TO SPEAK, IS A BLUFFING GAME.

IF YOU'RE HER FAN, YOU'D BE BETTER OFF NOT KNOWING,

BUT I CAN'T CONVINCE YOU OTHERWISE, HUH?

EVEN SO,

I STILL WANT TO KNOW.

BASICALLY, THE WAY WE DO THINGS IS LIKE THOSE WHO LIE ON THEIR RESUMES JUST TO GET INTO A GOOD COMPANY.

AS I SAID BEFORE, I WAS FATED TO AI-KUN, AND I ASSIGNED HER TO ALL KINDS OF JOBS.

BACK THEN, SHE JUST CAME FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE. SHE WAS A TOTAL BUMPKIN.

SHE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT BEING A PRO MEANT.

AND SHE DIDN'T TRY TO ADAPT WITH HER SURROUND-INGS.

SHE WORE CLOTHES THAT DIDN'T LOOK GOOD ON HER JUST BECAUSE THEY WERE CHEAP.

SHE WAS THAT KIND OF...

...BRAT.

WORK-SHOP?

HOPING THAT IT'D HELP HER SOMEHOW.

I INTRODUCED HER TO THE WORKSHOP OF A THEATER COMPANY.

SO,

A TROUPE CALLED *LALA LAI.*

YEAH, I JOINED THAT TROUPE WHEN I WAS IN COLLEGE.

...AND AKANE KUROKAWA IS THE YOUNG ACE THERE.

THEY SAY THAT ONLY TOP-NOTCH ACTORS EXIST IN THE LALA LAI TROUPE...

IT WASN'T THAT FAMOUS AT THE TIME, THOUGH.

IT'S THE SAME TROUPE THAT AKANE-KUN BELONGS TO.

THEY SAY THAT LOVE CHANGES PEOPLE.

Al...

...MUST HAVE FOUND HER LOVE THERE.

【推しの子】

AKA AKASAKA x MENGO YOKOYARI

CHAPTER 34
LEAD

THE THEATRICAL COMPANY LALA LAI.

...AND AS I SAID BEFORE, SHE STARTED ASKING FOR A GOOD PLACE TO EAT.

AFTER ATTENDING THE WORKSHOP THERE, SHE BEGAN TO TAKE CARE OF HER APPEARANCE...

BUT I REMEMBER SEEING HER GIRLY FACE TURN INTO A WOMAN'S AT ONCE.

OBVIOUSLY, I DON'T KNOW WHO EXACTLY THE GUY WAS,

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...

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED, I CAN INTRODUCE YOU TO THE TROUPE LEADER.

THAT WILL BRING YOU CLOSER TO THE ANSWER YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.

THIS INDUSTRY IS ALL ABOUT *GIVE AND TAKE.*

WHY WOULD YOU GO THAT FAR FOR ME?

I'M JUST A HAS-BEEN ACTOR WITH NO TRACK RECORD OR ANYTHING, YOU KNOW.

BECAUSE I SEE THE POTENTIAL IN YOU.

AS YOU KNOW, IN THE JAPANESE ENTERTAINMENT WORLD, THE GIVE AND TAKE BETWEEN THE AGENCIES AND PRODUCTION SIDE IS GREATLY RELATED TO CASTING...

...AND THIS CASTING WILL AFFECT YOUR REVENUE BY HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS YEN*.

*100 million yen is roughly 1 million dollars

THAT MAKES THIS 40,000 YEN* SUSHI FEEL LIKE A SMALL CHANGE, DOESN'T IT?

*About 400 USD.

BY MAKING YOU OWE ME ONE HERE,

I CAN GET A BIG ADVANTAGE IN THE CASTING WAR...

...WHEN YOU BECOME A POPULAR FIGURE.

THAT'S WHAT A PRODUCER'S WORK IS.

I'M NOT JUST DOING THIS FOR YOU.

IT SEEMS THAT YOU GUYS ARE UP TO SOMETHING INTERESTING.

LIKE THE REVIVAL OF THAT B-KOMACHI GROUP.

I SEE THE POTENTIAL IN KANA ARIMA-KUN AND MEMCHO-KUN, TOO.

!

I THINK...

...ALL OF YOU ARE A VERY *PROMISING INVESTMENT*, INDEED.

NO WAY...

JAPAN IDOL FESTI-VAL?!

HE SAID THAT HE COULD HELP US PERFORM THERE IF WE WERE INTER-ESTED.

YEP. THE PRODUCER OF MY LOVE HAS A CON-NECTION.

LET'S DO IT!

HOW CAN NEWCOMERS LIKE US STAND ON SUCH A BIG STAGE ALL OF A SUDDEN...?

WE'RE NOT READY AT ALL...

THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE!

THE JIF IS NEXT MONTH, RIGHT?

BUT WE'LL JUST MAKE A BAD IMPRESSION.

I MEAN, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE JIF HERE!

THE NEW B-KOMACHI WILL HAVE THEIR FIRST LIVE PERFORMANCE ON SUCH A BIG STAGE. ISN'T IT AMAZING?

ONLY BECAUSE YOU SELFISHLY NAMED OUR GROUP WITH THAT!

WE'RE THE SUCCESSOR OF THE LEGENDARY GROUP B-KOMACHI, AFTER ALL.

IT'S OKAY!

THEY'LL SAY THAT WE HAVE CONNECTIONS OR SOMETHING...

...

WELL, YOU'VE GOT A POINT.

IF WE DON'T TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY, WHAT ARE WE EVEN DOING HERE?

ORDINARY GROUPS HAVE TO WORK DESPERATELY FOR YEARS BEFORE THEY CAN STAND ON THIS STAGE.

THERE'S NO REASON NOT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT, THOUGH.

ALL RIGHT! IT'S SETTLED, THEN.

THIS IS PART OF MY JOB, AFTER ALL.

HAAH...

IF YOU SAY SO, I'LL DO IT.

WHAT'S *THAT*?

I'M TALKING ABOUT *THAT*!

NOW, ALL WE'VE GOT TO DO IS MAKE *THAT* DECISION.

WHO'LL BE THE LEAD GIRL OF B-KOMACHI?

IS THAT REALLY IMPORTANT?

CAN'T WE JUST CHOOSE RANDOMLY?

JOLT

IT IS IMPORTANT!

THE LEAD GIRL IS THE STAR IDOL!

A CUTE GIRL WHO CAN SING AND DANCE. SHE'S PRACTICALLY THE FACE OF THE GROUP!

IT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT POSITION.

Riiight?!

YOU TWO ARE GETTING ALONG WELL, HUH?

SO...?

ANY VOLUNTEERS?

I CAN TELL FROM YOUR FACES THAT YOU WANT TO BE ONE SO BADLY.

I DON'T WANNA BE A LEADER, BUT MY LIFE EXPERIENCE IS WHAT BRINGS US TOGETHER...

IN THE END, IT'S ALL ABOUT MATURITY, RIGHT?

IF YOU GIRLS INSIST...

W-WELL, I DON'T NEED TO BE ONE, BUT...

NO WAY. I'M USED TO BEING THE CENTER OF ATTENTION, AND I HAVE TONS OF EX-PERIENCES, TOO!

I'M GOOD AT DANCING, SO IT SHOULD BE ME, RIGHT?

STAY AWAY FROM MY DARK PAST, PLEASE!!

OMG! THE BELL PEPPER EX-ERCISES! HOW NOS-TALGIC!

Bell peppers♪ If you eat them, you'll be a superman♪

Dance with me. If you do, you'll be Peter Pan♪

SHE WAS NUMBER ONE ON THE ORICON CHART FOR HER BELL PEPPER EXER-CISES SONG, AND SHE'S BEEN ON A LOT OF MUSIC SHOWS.

IN THAT CASE, SENPAI SHOULD PROBABLY DO IT.

UGH!

SHE WAS CHILDISH AND CUTE.♥

RIGHT?

IT WAS SUBTLE, BUT SHE ALWAYS HIT THE WRONG NOTE.

I KNOW I'M A BAD SINGER!

NO WAY IN HELL!

SING IT A LITTLE!

THEY MADE US DANCE TO THAT SONG IN KINDER-GARTEN.

OKAY! I'M IN!

HOW ABOUT THIS, THEN? THE PERSON WHO GETS THE HIGHEST KARAOKE SCORE WILL BE THE LEAD GIRL.

HOW CAN THE LEAD GIRL SHINE IF SHE DOESN'T HOLD A MICRO-PHONE?

YOU'RE RIGHT.

THE LEAD GIRL HAS TO BE ABLE TO SING, AFTER ALL.

That's mean.

BUT—

ARE YOU STUPID OR WHAT?

THE LEAD GIRL IS THE FACE OF THE GROUP, RIGHT?

YOU'LL COME WITH US, TOO. RIGHT, SENPAI?!

NO, I'LL PASS.

IF I'M YOUR LEAD, YOU'LL NEVER BE POPULAR.

...EVEN AFTER MY ERA OF BEING A ONE-HIT WONDER CHILD ACTOR WAS OVER.

DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT ALL I DID WAS ACTING?

I'VE BEEN IN THIS INDUSTRY FOR OVER A DECADE...

WHY NOT...?

THERE'S MORE THAN ENOUGH EVI-DENCE.

HA HA HA HA HA

I TRIED ALL KINDS OF STUFF, YOU KNOW? BUT NONE OF THEM MADE ME POPU-LAR.

I MEAN, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT SOMEONE WHO KEPT GETTING A JOB DUE TO HER POPULARITY AS A CHILD ACTOR, BUT FAILED TO GIVE PROFIT TO THE COMPANY THAT HIRED HER,

AND YET, SHE SHREWDLY MADE THEM PAY HER SO SHE COULD PAY HER BILL.

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

IN SHORT, THIS GIRL NAMED KANA ARIMA DOESN'T BRING IN FANS!

I CAN SEE WHY PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO SPEND MONEY ON THIS SLY GIRL WITH A FOUL MOUTH, THOUGH!

COME TO THINK OF IT, THAT DRAMA, SWEET TODAY, WASN'T PROF-ITABLE EITHER, WAS IT?!

MEM-CHO HAS A LOT OF SUB-SCRIBERS,

AND YOU'RE CUTE AND INNOCENT. I'M SURE YOU'LL BE POPULAR.

BE-SIDES...

PEOPLE...

...LIKE HONEST AND CUTE GIRLS LIKE YOU,

NOT A TROUBLE-SOME AND TWISTED GIRL LIKE ME.

DID SOME-THING BAD HAPPEN?

NOT REALLY...

YOU'VE BEEN A BIT OF A DEBBIE DOWNEY LATELY, DON'T YOU THINK?

JUST DECIDE WHO'LL BE THE LEAD BETWEEN YOU TWO WITH KARA-OKE OR WHATEVER.

IF I CAN MAKE THE CROWD CHEERFUL, THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.

TAIYAKI

YOU'LL BE FINE.

AQUA DOESN'T COMPLIMENT PEOPLE, BUT HE SAID YOU WERE CUTE.

BUT...

YOU ARE CUTE.

I'M NOT THAT CUTE...

I WON'T ASK YOU TO BE AN IDOL ON A WHIM,

YOU'RE NEITHER TROUBLE-SOME NOR TWISTED.

I'M BLUSHING

YOU'RE CUTE, TOO

I ADORE ACTORS.

WHAAAT...? YOU'RE SO COOL...!

BUT...

HE SAID THE SAME THING TO MEM-CHO.

YOU ARE TROUBLESOME AND TWISTED...

I FEEL LIKE I CAN GRADUALLY SEE WHAT KIND OF GIRL MY BROTHER LIKES, AND I DON'T LIKE IT...

COME TO THINK OF IT, BOTH OF THEM JOINED THIS GROUP BECAUSE OF AQUA.

'Kay...

Come and join us later,

WELL, ENTERTAINERS ARE A BUNCH OF TROUBLESOME PEOPLE.

WHEN I SAY THIS, YOU SAY THAT.

YOU'LL GIVE YOUR FUTURE BOYFRIEND A HARD TIME...

Sign: Karakan

カラ缶

KARAKAN

TA-

TI

43PT

UM... OKAY. WORK HARDER?

DAH

TI

57PT

HANG IN THERE! JUST A LITTLE MORE!

S—

SPEAK TO YOURSELF. YOU'RE NOT ACTUALLY GREAT, EITHER.

HOW COULD YOU EVEN SAY YES TO MY CHALLENGE WITH A SCORE LIKE THAT?!

THAT'S WHAT I'M TRYING TO OFFER TO MY FANS!

ISN'T IT DRAMATIC?

WON'T PEOPLE BE DELIGHTED IF THEY SEE THEIR FAVORITE IDOL GROW FROM A BAD SINGER TO A GOOD ONE?

YOU'RE TOTALLY HOPELESS IF YOU'RE BAD AT IT, THOUGH!

I MAY NOT BE GREAT AT SINGING, BUT I STILL HAVE VALUE!

IDOLS ARE ALL ABOUT CHARACTER!

DON'T LUMP ME IN WITH YOU, PLEASE.

WE BOTH NEED SPECIAL TRAINING, HUH?

WE SHOULD PRACTICE SINGING MORE.

HAAH...

OKAY.

WE CAN PICK A LIGHT SONG FOR A BREATHER...

ANYWAY, LET'S TAKE A LITTLE BREAK.

OH!

HM?

YOU HAVE QUITE THE PERSON-ALITY, EH?

I like it.

SHALL WE SING SENPAI'S BELL PEPPER EXERCISES SONG?

SHE RELEASED A LOT OF SONGS AFTER THE BELL PEPPER ONE.

I DIDN'T KNOW AT ALL.

SENPAI...

Kana Arima
Kana Arima
Kana Arima
Kana Arima
Kana Arima
Kana Arima
Kana Arima
Bell Pepper Exercises
Fresh Satellite
LOVE
Moon...!

Youlobe

[MV] – Kana

mm♪

SHE REALLY *IS* TROUBLE-SOME.

HOW COULD SHE CALL HER-SELF A BAD SINGER?

97PT

That's amazing!!

IT'S A BIT TOO MUCH, DON'T YOU THINK?

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I REFUSE TO BE THE LEAD GIRL.

...REPEATEDLY, DIDN'T I?

I'VE TOLD YOU...

CRAP, SHE FIGURED IT OUT!

...WON'T BE ABLE TO REFUSE IF YOU MAKE THIS FACT KNOWN WHILE FILMING NONCHALANTLY?

DO YOU THINK A SIMPLE GIRL LIKE ME WHO GETS CARRIED AWAY EASILY...

ARE YOU DOING *THAT* TRICK?

!

THEN, WE WATCHED YOUR MUSIC VIDEO...

NEITHER OF US WAS QUALIFIED TO BE THE LEAD GIRL.

NO, WELL...

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS WHEN WE WENT TO KARAOKE.

YOU SAW THAT?

JUST BECAUSE BELL PEPPER EXERCISES SOLD WELL, EVERYONE MISTAKENLY THOUGHT THAT I WAS A GOOD SINGER.

IT WAS A TRAGEDY FOR ALL OF US.

YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GO THAT FAR...

I'M SERIOUS. THEY WERE SO BAD THAT THEY BARELY SOLD.

EVERYONE INVOLVED JUST WANTS TO FORGET ABOUT IT.

FORGET ABOUT THEM, WILL YA?

THOSE SONGS ARE JUST RELICS FROM MY WANDER-ING ERA.

A DARK PAST WHEN I TRIED SO HARD TO KEEP MAKING MONEY.

TO BE HONEST,

I THOUGHT YOU WERE TONE-DEAF IN BELL PEPPER EXERCISES.

HOWEVER, YOUR SECOND SONG WAS REALLY GOOD,

AND THE THIRD ONE WAS EVEN BETTER.

YOU MUST'VE PRACTICED HARD, HUH?

YOU DID YOUR BEST...

...SO YOU COULD LIVE UP TO EVERYONE'S EXPECTA-TIONS.

YOU HAVE A STRONG SENSE OF RESPONSI-BILITY. I'M SURE YOU CAN BE A GOOD LEADER FOR B-KOMACHI—

SHUDDUP!

I REALLY CAN'T DO IT!

NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU ASK, I WON'T BE YOUR LEAD GIRL!

ARE YOU LOOKING DOWN ON ME?!

DO YOU THINK I'LL FALL FOR IT IF YOU PRAISE ME LIKE THAT?!

I'M SORRY, WE SHOULD HAVE ASKED YOU BEFORE ASSUMING.

WE WON'T BRING IT UP ANY-MORE.

...

ZST

COULD YOU AT LEAST LISTEN TO US SING BEFORE DECLINING?

WE'RE YOUR IDOLS! ♪
B IS THE SIGN! ♡
Donutchu.
KIYASE

YOU REALLY ARE FIT FOR THE JOB, KANA-CHAN!

OH, MY. THAT WAS AMAZING!

AW, JEEZ...!

WHY DOES THIS ALWAYS HAPPEN TO ME?!

AT THIS RATE, WE'RE GOING TO DO WELL AT THE JIF!

I DIDN'T EXPECT SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO BE AN IDOL WOULD BE SO ***TERRIBLE*** AT SINGING.

I CAN TELL FROM YOUR SONG THAT YOUR LOOKS ARE THE ONLY REASON YOU'VE ***SURVIVED*** UNTIL NOW.

THAT'S HARSH.

I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN FROM THE BEGINNING.

MY, MY.

I THOUGHT THIS BIG REVERSAL WAS IMPOSSIBLE CONSIDERING THE ***HELLISH SITUATION*** WE WERE IN EARLIER.

SHUDDUP! YOU'RE CRUDE AND THE OTHER ONE IS TONE-DEAF!

KIYASE

...I REALLY DON'T WANT TO DO IT.

BUT...

AT THIS POINT, IT MIGHT BE BEST IF I DO IT, AFTER ALL.

YOU TWO ARE GONNA NEED TO WORK YOUR-SELVES TO THE BONE TO MAKE ME LOOK GOOD!

SERIOUSLY. YOU TWO ARE HOPELESS WITHOUT ME, HUH?

Donutchu.

WHY DO I ALWAYS SAY SOMETHING THAT IS CONTRARY TO MY FEELINGS?

IT SEEMS THAT YOU'VE SETTLED EVERY-THING.

PRESI-DENT.

YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME UNTIL THE BIG DAY.

WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO PICK UP THE PACE.

I'VE FOUND SOMEONE WHO CAN HELP, SO MAKE SURE YOU WORK HIM HARD.

A HELPER?

KA_ CHAK

AQU—

COULD IT BE...

HEY.

NOT YOU AGAIN!

OH, PIEYON! LONG TIME NO SEE!

WHAT? HE'S THE REAL DEAL?

YOU'RE OUR BIGGEST EARNER, RIGHT?

I'M BEGGING YOU, JUST GO BACK AND DO YOUR NORMAL WORK!

YOU USED TO BE A PROFES-SIONAL DANCER, RIGHT?

YOU MENTIONED IN THE VIDEO THAT YOU ALSO WORKED AS A CHOREOGRA-PHER FOR IDOLS...

I SEE!

もじ FIDGET

もじ FIDGET

AS A PRO, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF US?

I THINK WE'VE STARTED TO TAKE SHAPE, BUT—

BUT IF YOU REALLY MEAN BUSINESS...

WELL, THERE ARE CERTAINLY IDOLS WHO CAN PERFORM ON STAGE ON THAT LEVEL,

...YOU HAVE TO START WITH STAMINA.

TAP

EEK!

TAP

SLOPE LAPS, TEN MORE ROUNDS!

TAP

TAP

TAP

DON'T FORGET TO SMILE, OF COURSE!

YOU WANT TO HAVE ENOUGH STAMINA TO PERFORM EVEN WHEN YOU'RE DEAD TIRED. THAT'S VERY IMPORTANT!

WHILE YOU'RE STILL EXHAUSTED, DO YOUR ENTIRE SET LIST THREE TIMES!

Carton: Delicious soy milk

...IF WE TURN AROUND AND SWITCH PLACES FROM THE RIGHT SIDE BEFORE THE CHORUS OF THE SECOND SONG?
THAT'S A GOOD IDEA!
WON'T IT BE COOL...

DO YOU REGRET...

...BEING AN IDOL?

PIEYON-SAN.

I DON'T FEEL LIKE BEING AN IDOL AT ALL,

BUT I DON'T THINK I'M FIT FOR THE JOB.

LET ALONE THE LEAD GIRL.

NO, I MADE THAT DECISION MYSELF, AFTER ALL.

THAT'S NOT A POSITION FOR SOME-ONE LIKE ME.

THE LEAD GIRL IS THE FACE OF THE GROUP, RIGHT?

WHY ARE YOU SO RELUCTANT TO BE THE LEAD GIRL?

BUT YOU'RE GOOD AT SINGING.

BUT THEY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING AT ALL.

PEOPLE ONLY SAY THAT BECAUSE IT'S POLITE,

I THINK A GIRL NAMED KANA ARIMA IS AMAZING.

SOME-ONE LIKE YOU?

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?

YOU'RE A HARD WORKER WHO RUNS EVERY MORNING AND NEVER MISSES YOUR VOCALIZATION TRAINING.

YOU HAVE MIXED FEELINGS ABOUT YOUR FOUL MOUTH.

YOU'D RATHER SEE THE WORK YOU'RE PART OF GET PRAISED INSTEAD OF RECEIVING PRAISE FOR YOURSELF.

YOU ACTUALLY HATE BELL PEPPERS.

WHAT ...?

YOU REALLY HAVE BEEN PAYING ATTENTION TO ME.

I'M SO HAPPY...

SHOOT!

I'VE COME TO LIKE PIEYON A LITTLE.

THAT REALLY HITS THE SPOT.

COULD YOU BE MY FAN?

YUP.

WHAT? NO WAY.

EVEN NOW,

I STILL HAVE A FAN, HUH?

I'VE NEVER TOLD THE PUBLIC ABOUT ME HATING BELL PEPPERS...

...BUT YOU NOTICED IT.

THE TRUTH IS, I DON'T LIKE THEM, EITHER.

WE'RE TWINS!

BELL PEPPERS ARE JUST TOO STRONG.

EVERY DISH THAT HAS THEM WILL TASTE LIKE BELL PEPPERS.

TELL ME ABOUT IT!

I FORCED MYSELF TO EAT THEM WHEN I SANG THE BELL PEPPERS SONG,

BUT NOW, I *FEEL SICK* JUST LOOKING AT THEM.

YOU POOR THING.

HUH?

~~~

~~~

~~~

~~~

IT'S ACTUALLY FUN TO TALK NORMAL-LY LIKE THIS.

RARE THINGS DO HAPPEN.

I FEEL LIKE I CAN REALLY LIKE HIM.

SHOULD I GIVE UP ON AQUA AND GO FOR HIM INSTEAD?

PLUS, HE MAKES A HUNDRED MILLION YEN* A YEAR. IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE, IS IT?

*About one million USD.

PIEYON IS BUSY, BUT HE COMES EVERY DAY FOR US. HE REALLY IS NICE, ISN'T HE?

YUP!

HE'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE ONE I'VE SEEN IN THE VIDEOS!

FOR INSTANCE, I THOUGHT HE LOOKED REALLY BUFF,

BUT HE'S SURPRISINGLY SLENDER IN PERSON.

HIS STATURE IS PRETTY MUCH *THE SAME AS AQU-TAN*, DON'T YOU THINK?

HA HA HA.

I'D LAUGH FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE IF MY BROTHER EVER MADE THAT DUCK VOICE!

【推しの子】
AKA AKASAKA x MENGO YOKOYARI

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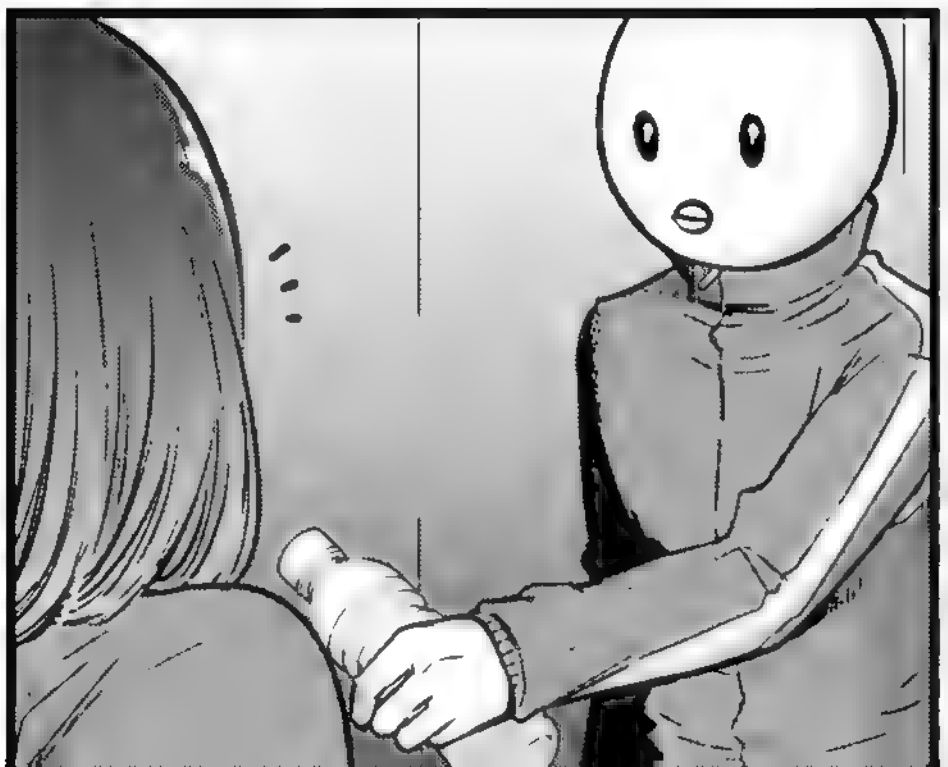

THANKS, PIEYON-SAN!

ARIMA-CHAN, DO YOU HATE AQU-TAN THAT MUCH?

THERE'S NOT A SINGLE ELEMENT I LIKE ABOUT HIM!

WHAT A GENTLE-MAN.

HE'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM A CERTAIN MAN NAMED AQUA.

HE'S INSENSI-TIVE AND LACKS COMMON SENSE.

HE ACTS COOL, BUT HE'S ACTUALLY GLOOMY.

ON TOP OF THAT, BOTH HE AND HIS SISTER DON'T HAVE RESPECT TOWARD OLDER PEOPLE.

HAAH... TO THINK THAT HE WAS CUTE WHEN HE WAS LITTLE.

OH? YOU'VE KNOWN HIM FOR A LONG TIME?

SHE'S GOT A POINT. I'M MUCH OLDER THAN ARIMA-CHAN, BUT HE'S NEVER ADDRESSED ME POLITELY, EITHER...

I DON'T THINK HE'LL EVER CHANGE UNLESS I TELL HIM CLEARLY ABOUT IT!

HE'S NEVER AD-DRESSED ME PO-LITELY!

ONCE YOU'VE MET HIM, YOU'LL NEVER FORGET ABOUT HIM!

UM... OKAY...?

YEAH, I MET HIM ON SET WHEN WE WERE LITTLE!

I THINK WE WERE ABOUT 3 OR 4 BACK THEN?

HM? HMM...?

I WISH HE'D STOP POLLUTING MY MEMO-RIES!

I THOUGHT HE WAS LIKE AN ANGEL AT THE TIME, BUT HE GREW UP TO BE DETEST-ABLE.

HE'S BEEN IN MY MIND FOR A LONG TIME!

FINALLY, TOMOR-ROW IS THE BIG DAY.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE GIRLS?

THEY'VE GOTTEN MUCH BETTER.

RUBY-CHAN HAS ALWAYS BEEN GOOD AT DANCING.

MEM-CHO CAN WALK ABOUT WHILE WATCHING HER SUR-ROUNDINGS SKILLFULLY.

ARIMA-SAN IS STEADY AND A QUICK LEARNER.

AND WHEN SHE SINGS, THERE AREN'T ANY NOTICEABLE MISTAKES IN HER DANCE MOVES.

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING TO MY TROUBLESOME REQUEST ON YOUR DAY OFF.

OKAY.

...THEN GET THEM TO REST TO PREPARE FOR TOMORROW.

MAKE SURE THEY'RE AWARE OF THEIR POSITION ON A STAGE. LET THEM PRACTICE IN THE AFTERNOON...

I'M ACTUALLY HAPPY THAT YOU ASKED ME FOR HELP.

IT'S OKAY. I'VE GROWN TO LIKE THEM, SO I WANT THEM TO SUCCEED TOO.

BUT I'M KINDA SHOCKED.

YOU'RE IM-PERSONATING ME, BUT NO ONE HAS NOTICED IT.

I WONDER? FOR THOSE WHO CAN PULL IT OFF... MAYBE?

HMM?

THAT'S IMPRES-SIVE.

IS IT REALLY EASY FOR ACTORS TO DO SUCH A THING?

SHE WOULD OPPOSE ME NO MATTER WHAT I SAID.

I DON'T THINK YOU HAD TO GO AS FAR AS IMPERSON-ATING ME...

BUT... DID YOU REALLY HAVE TO DO THIS?

...

I THINK SHE'D LISTEN TO YOU, TOO.

ON THE OTHER HAND, SHE'D LISTEN TO PIEYON-SAN'S WORDS EARNESTLY.

I'M...

...RATHER FRAGILE, YOU KNOW.

HAAH—

FINALLY!

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE OUR DEBUT AS IDOLS!

JUST GO TO SLEEP ALREADY.

YOU SHOULDN'T UNDERESTI-MATE THE IMPORTANCE OF SLEEP.

YOU'RE TOO NOISY...

WHAT TO DO? WHAT TO DO?

ACCORDING TO SOME UNIVERSITY RESEARCH,

THE DAMAGE OF STAYING UP ALL NIGHT LASTS FOR ABOUT THREE DAYS, AND YOUR CHARM WILL BE REDUCED BY ABOUT 30%.

DAI●O SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

DAI●O DID?!

I HAVE TO GO TO SLEEP NOW!

BUT I CAN'T SLEEP AT ALL!

I'M TOO EXCIT-ED!

WHAT SHOULD I DO?!

...

I CAN'T SEEM TO DO THAT. IT'S NOT GOOD, RIGHT?

...TO BE EXCITED.

HOW NICE...

HOW CAN YOU BE SO EXCITED ANYWAY?

...

HM?

HOW CAN YOU BE POSITIVE, THEN?

OR WORSE, WE MIGHT NOT HAVE ENOUGH VISITORS TO BEGIN WITH.

WE'RE THERE BECAUSE WE HAVE CONNECTIONS. PEOPLE WILL BOO US FOR THAT.

NO ONE CAN PREDICT WHAT WILL HAPPEN TOMORROW.

BECAUSE I'VE BEEN LONGING FOR IT.

I HAD NEITHER FUTURE NOR HOPE.

...COOPED UP IN MY ROOM ALL THE TIME.

I USED TO BE...

AT THIS RATE, I'LL DIE QUIETLY WITHOUT ANY THRILL OR EXCITEMENT.

I THOUGHT TO MYSELF,

HOWEVER,

THE MOMENT I BECAME AN IDOL NERD, EVERY DAY WAS SO MUCH FUN.

MY HEART WAS FILLED WITH LOVE.

AND THEN,

I MET SOMEONE AROUND THAT TIME.

I DON'T CARE.

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE MISS-ING OUT ON, BECAUSE YOU'VE NEVER HAD ONE...

MY LIFE BECAME WORTH LIVING AFTER I FOUND AN IDOL TO CHEER FOR.

OH, MY. HOW BIT-TERSWEET.

YEAH, HE WAS MY FIRST LOVE.

SOME-ONE?

...THAT HE'D BE **MY** FAN IF I BECAME AN IDOL.

HE TOLD ME...

...OF BECOMING AN IDOL SINCE THEN.

I'VE ALWAYS DREAMED...

...

I'M SURE...

IF I CAN BE POPULAR AS AN IDOL,

I'M SURE HE'S STILL AN IDOL NERD.

I WONDER WHERE THE DOCTOR IS RIGHT NOW.

HOW NICE.

YOU HAVE A FAN WHO WILL SUP-PORT YOU NO MATTER WHAT.

...BUT NO ONE IS LOOKING AT THE CUR-RENT "ME" RIGHT NOW.

EVERYONE STILL SEES ME AS THE FORMER CHILD ACTOR...

I DON'T HAVE ANYONE LIKE THAT.

TMP

TMP

PUTTING THAT ASIDE, I HAD NO IDEA THAT RUBY WAS A SHUT-IN. THAT WAS UNEX-PECTED.

PIEYON'S MASK!

IT MUSTN'T HAVE BEEN EASY FOR AQUA AND THE PRESI-DENT.

!

BA-DMp

HOW DOES HE LOOK UNDER THAT MASK?

TAP

HE'S BEEN STUBBORN AND REFUSED TO TAKE IT OFF, SO I'VE BEEN CURIOUS.

PHEW

WE'RE HERE AT THE JAPAN IDOL FESTIVAL!

IT'S A STAGE WITH A LOT OF UNDER-GROUND IDOLS.

AMONG THE TEN STAGES, WE'LL PER-FORM ON THE STAR STAGE.

TOP STAGE
SEA STAGE
HAPPY GARDEN
BALL FACTORY
ST.R STAGE
Zepp LiverCity (TOKYO)
1.TOP STAGE
2.SEA STAGE
5.STAR STA
10:00
45

WE HAD A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP, DIDN'T WE?

WE'LL BE FINE!

DO YOU THINK WE'LL DO WELL?

AH... I'M GETTING NER-VOUS.

...THAT'D BE TOO MUCH TO ASK, I GUESS.

I WISH WE COULD PERFORM ON THE MAIN STAGE, BUT...

SO YOU HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPE-VINE.

DAI●O SAID SOME-THING LIKE THAT!

AND SENPAI TOLD ME ABOUT IT!

THE DAMAGE OF STAYING UP ALL NIGHT LASTS FOR ABOUT THREE DAYS, AND YOUR CHARM WILL BE REDUCED BY ABOUT 30%.

ACCORDING TO SOME UNIVERSITY RESEARCH,

OUR DANCE MOVES ARE *THE STAR OF THE SHOW.*

SO GETTING *PROPER SLEEP* IS THE KEY!

IT'D BE TOUGH IF WE DIDN'T GET ENOUGH SLEEP.

WELL, B-KOMACHI'S CHOREOGRAPHIES AREN'T EASY.

I COULDN'T SLEEP AT ALL.

WHAT NOW...?

【推しの子】

AKA AKASAKA x MENGO YOKOYARI

PHEW

CHAPTER 37
PRESSURE

AQUA WAS THE GUY BEHIND THAT MASK...?

...

WAS HE JUST ACTING WHEN HE WAS BEING NICE TO ME?

WAS HE TRYING TO MAKE ME TAKE THE LESSON SERIOUSLY?

IS HE A SUBSTI-TUTE?

BUT HE'S NOT THAT BUFF

WHY?

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TODAY IS A BIG DAY, BUT I ENDED UP NOT BEING ABLE TO SLEEP AT ALL.

IT'S THE WORST...

MY HEAD IS ALL JUMBLED UP.

IS THAT SO?

THE DRESSING ROOM BY THE STAGE CAN ONLY BE USED RIGHT BEFORE YOUR TURN.

NOT OVER THERE.

...AND TAKE A LITTLE NAP.

I'D BETTER HEAD TO THE DRESSING ROOM AT ONCE...

TEE HEE HEE.

WHERE DO WE CHANGE OUR CLOTHES, THEN?

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER

HUNDREDS OF PERFORMERS AND THOSE INVOLVED ARE ALL PACKED HERE, AND THERE'S BARELY SPACE FOR LUGGAGE.

THERE'S NO CHANGING ROOM EITHER, SO YOU HAVE TO CHANGE YOUR CLOTHES BEHIND EACH PARTITION.

THE ONLY PLACE THAT IS NOT A MESS IS THE PHOTO-SHOOT AREA.

HOW CHAOTIC...

COME NOW.

YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO SETTLE DOWN RIGHT BEFORE YOUR TURN, SO IT'S TIME TO EAT LUNCH AND GET READY.

OBVIOUSLY, FAMOUS GROUPS THAT PERFORM ON THE MAIN STAGE ARE GIVEN SEPA-RATE ROOMS.

THIS TREATMENT ONLY APPLIES TO THE UNDER-GROUND AND MODERATE IDOLS.

IN SHORT, IF YOU WANT TO BE TREATED WELL, YOU'LL HAVE TO SELL, TOO.

Sign: Lunch box

Can we take a picture with you?

Oh! MEM-Cho!

I can't pass through...

EVERYONE IS SO EN-THUSIASTIC.

HAAH...

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER

ARE YOU OKAY?

YEAH, I JUST DIDN'T GET ENOUGH SLEEP. THAT'S ALL.

OH, DEAR. ARE YOU NER-VOUS?

DON'T BE STUPID.

I'VE BEEN IN THIS INDUSTRY SINCE I WAS STILL SUCK-ING MY BABY BOTTLES.

THERE'S NO WAY I'M NERVOUS NOW.

JUST LET ME HANDLE THE OTHER TWO.

THAT'S RIGHT.

IT'S ALL UP TO ME NOW.

GIVE IT EVERY-THING YOU'VE GOT.

DON'T BE SCARED.

DON'T BE PRES-SURED.

AS AN VETERAN WITH 17 YEARS OF ACTING EXPERIENCE, I NEED TO KEEP THOSE TWO CHICKS UNDER MY WINGS.

...ARE RESTING ON MY SHOULDERS.

OTHER PEOPLE'S CAREERS...

THE EXPECTATIONS OF THOSE WHO BELIEVED IN ME AND BET ON ME... I CAN'T LET THEM DOWN.

IF I FALL, EVERYONE WILL FALL WITH ME.

I CAN'T BE NEGATIVE NOW...

THIS IS BAD...

I REMEMBERED SOMETHING UNPLEASANT...

THE STAFF WAS WEARING PLAIN CLOTHES TO FILL UP AS MANY EMPTY SEATS AS POSSIBLE.

THEY ALL LOOKED DISAPPOINTED, THINKING THAT I WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH.

I CAN'T EVEN PUT IT INTO WORDS.

Customers who purchase a CD may participate in the event.

THE PAIN THAT THE PERFORMERS GO THROUGH WHEN THEY CAN'T LIVE UP TO EVERY-ONE'S EXPEC-TATIONS...

Kana Arima NEW Single

LET'S WAIT FOR THE TIME BEING AND FIND THE RIGHT TIME FOR THE NEXT RELEASE...

WELL,

I'LL DO ANYTHING...

DO YOU HAVE ANY WORK?

IF YOU WANT WORK, WHY DON'T YOU GO TO REG-ULAR AGEN-CIES?

WE DON'T HAVE JOBS FOR SOMEONE YOUR AGE.

WE'RE AN AGENCY FOR CHILD ACTORS.

WILL YOU BE FINE LIVING BY YOURSELF?

SO I'M THINKING OF MOVING BACK TO MY PARENTS'.

YOUR GRANDFATHER HURT HIS LOWER BACK,

JUST RELAX AND ENJOY YOUR LIFE, MOM!

OF COURSE I WILL!

AM I NOT NEEDED ANYMORE?

ちゃんねる★

もう子役じゃない有馬かなに価値ある？

ちゃんねる★

子供の有馬が好きなわけであって
成長した有馬にファンは居ないだろ

Channel★
Kana Arima is all grown up now. Does anyone still care about her?
Channel★
Arima was popular as a child, but I don't think she has any fans now.

今日あまがドラマ化
ヒロインに有馬かな

Drama series of Sweet Today. Kana Arima will be the lead actress.

I'VE GROWN UP. I DON'T HAVE ANY FANS!

I'M NOT A CHILD ANYMORE. I HAVE NO VALUE!

...DEPRECIATE MYSELF LIKE THOSE POSTS ON THE INTERNET?

WHEN DID I START TO...

...ABOUT THOSE TWO.

BUT I STILL HAVE TO DO SOMETHING...

BEING THE LEADER OF B-KOMACHI?

BIG TALK FOR SOMEONE WHO'S NOT EVEN POPULAR...

SENPAI.

WHAT?!

I'M GETTING SO NERVOUS.

WHAT SHOULD I DO...?

THE CLOSER WE GET TO PERFORMING, THE MORE NERVOUS I BECOME...

YOU WERE ALL EXCITED ABOUT IT UNTIL JUST NOW.

...

EVERYONE DOES THAT WHEN THEY LIE.

HOW LONG DO YOU THINK I'VE BEEN DOING THIS?

OF COURSE NOT.

AREN'T YOU SCARED, SENPAI?

YOUR HANDS ARE SUPER COLD.

YOU'RE NERVOUS TOO, AREN'T YOU?

I'M NOT LYING!

BESIDES, I HAVEN'T FALLEN SO LOW THAT SOMEONE LIKE YOU NEEDS TO WORRY ABOUT ME!

YOU'RE *HOWLING LIKE A SCARED PUPPY...*

FWAP

!

...

BUT THANK GOODNESS.

IT'S A RELIEF TO KNOW THAT EVEN YOU'RE NERVOUS RIGHT NOW.

HUH?

ARE YOU MORE SCARED THAN I THOUGHT...?

THAT'S WHY.

WE'RE A *TEAM*, YOU KNOW?

DON'T WORRY.

IT'S BECAUSE OF YOU TWO!

THAT'S EXACTLY MY PROB-LEM!

SO WHAT IF I FAILED? IT WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST TIME!

I WOULDN'T THINK TWICE IF I WAS PERFORMING ON THAT STAGE ALONE!

BUT NOW, I HAVE YOU GUYS...!

I DON'T WANT US TO FAIL.

I DON'T WANT YOU TO EXPERI-ENCE THE PAIN OF FAILURE.

BEING IN A TEAM...

...IS SCARY....

...

DON'T JUST SELFISHLY TAKE RESPONSIBILITY ON YOUR OWN.

I DON'T KNOW A LOT ABOUT YOUR CHILD ACTOR ERA...

...NOR DO I KNOW HOW MUCH PEOPLE EVALUATE YOUR CAREER NOW.

TO ME, YOU'RE JUST A ***YOUNG GIRL.***

A COMMON ROOKIE IDOL...

...WHO WORKS HARD AND IS CUTE.

IT'S NATURAL FOR SOMEONE TO FAIL,

SO WHY DON'T WE JUST HAVE FUN?

COME ON!

IT'S OUR TURN TO GET CHANGED!

I'M A ROOKIE.
A ROOKIE IDOL, KANA ARIMA.

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CHAPTER 38 ..... FAN OF THE ENTIRE GROUP

BOSS, CAN WE STAY AND WATCH THE NEXT PERFORMANCE, TOO?

A CUTE AND FUNNY STREAMER.

I'VE HEARD OF HER NAME BEFORE.

WHO IS SHE?

MEM-CHO IS GOING TO PERFORM.

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT IT?

B-KOMACHI?

NOW SHE'S JOINING AN IDOL GROUP CALLED B-KOMACHI.

OH, THE SHOW THAT BROKE THE INTERNET, HUH?

SHE APPEARED IN *MY LOVE* RECENTLY.

BUT ONCE UPON A TIME, THERE WAS A GROUP WITH THE EXACT SAME NAME...

TODAY'S YOUNG PEOPLE DON'T KNOW IT, HUH?

WELL, LET'S WATCH THEM FOR A BIT BEFORE WE HEAD BACK.

ONLY THEIR NAME IS THE SAME.

SHE WAS AMAZING,

BUT HER CAREER WAS CUT SHORT WHEN SHE DIED.

...AND THE LEGENDARY GIRL, AI, WAS ONE OF THE MEMBERS.

OH!

THIS INTRO...

♪♪♪

♪♪♪

TA-

DAH

IF ANYTHING, I FEEL RATHER CALM.

I'M NOT PARTICULARLY NERVOUS ONCE I'M UP ON STAGE.

I ALSO SEE MORE RED GLOW STICKS THAN I EXPECTED.

Mem-Cho!!

Mem-Cho!

I WASN'T WORRIED ABOUT IT CONSIDERING WE HAD AN INFLUENCER IN OUR GROUP.

WE'VE GOT ENOUGH VISITORS.

THE SAME COLOR AS AI!

I CALL DIBS ON THE RED GLOW STICK!

IF I CAN CHOOSE ANY COLOR, I'LL GO WITH WHITE.

WHAT ABOUT YOU, SENPAI?

IN THAT CASE, I'LL TAKE THE YELLOW ONE.

YOU CAN, BUT WHITE IS SPECIAL. SOME PEOPLE GET JEALOUS AND FIGHT OVER IT.

CAN'T I?

WHITE, EH?

IT SUITS SOMEONE WHO'S NOT AN IDOL OTAKU LIKE YOU, THOUGH.

ALL OUR FANS JUST WANT TO SEE HER.

OH, WELL MEM-CHO ATTRACTS MOST PEOPLE, AFTER ALL

THOSE WHO ARE STANDING IN FRONT ARE WAVING YELLOW GLOW STICKS.

CHEEEEEEEEER!

EVERYONE CAME TO SEE HER...

IF SHE HAD BEEN THE LEAD GIRL, THE AUDIENCE WOULD'VE BEEN HAPPIER.

SO? AS AN OLD FAN OF B-KOMACHI, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THEM?

THEY'RE COM-PLETELY DIFFER-ENT.

THIS ISN'T B-KOMACHI.

JUST BECAUSE THEY'VE GATHERED THREE WORTH-LESS GIRLS DOESN'T MEAN THAT...

THAT GROUP EXISTED BECAUSE THEY HAD A STAR CALLED AI.

WAVE
WAVE
WAVE
BOSS?!
CHEER
SHE'S SO RADIANT.
AH...
SOMEONE LIKE HER WILL ALWAYS IMPROVE AND ADVANCE.
SHE'S GETTING MORE AND MORE FANS.
EVEN NOW, SHE'S CAPTIVATING THEIR HEARTS.
IT'S LIKE SHE WAS BORN TO BE AN IDOL.
AND SHE ALWAYS HAS A BLAST.
SHE LOVES IDOLS,

I'M JEAL-OUS.

EVERY-ONE SEES THEM...

...AND WANTS THEM.

ON THE OTHER HAND, NO ONE CARES ABOUT ME.

MY MOM AND MANAG-ER...

...NE-GLECTED ME...

...AND THE FANS ONLY SEE THE CHILD ACTOR IN ME.

"SOMEBODY,
LOOK AT ME."

THAT HAS BEEN MY SCREAM FOR MORE THAN A DECADE.
SAY THAT I'M USEFUL,
AND I'LL DO IT WHOLE-HEARTEDLY.
SAY THAT YOU NEED ME,
AND I'LL GIVE MY ALL.

PRAISE ME AND TELL ME I DID A GOOD JOB,

AND I'LL WORK EVEN HARDER.

100

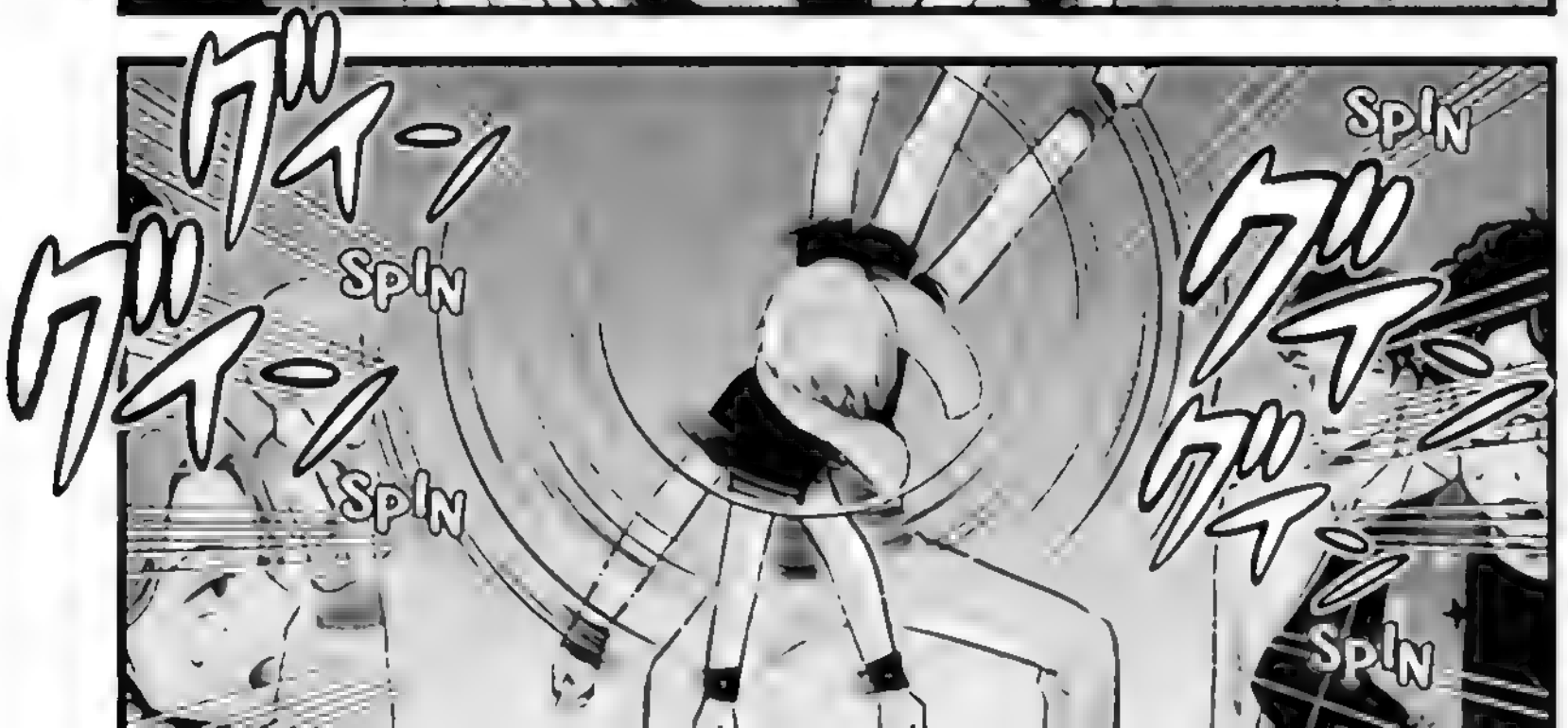
ANY-BODY...

SOME-BODY...

SAY THAT IT'S FINE FOR ME TO BE HERE.

FWISH

WAVE
WAVE


SPIN
SPIN
SPIN
SPIN

WHAT IS HE DOING WHILE LOOKING ALL COM-POSED?

HE'S MAKING A FOOL OF HIMSELF!

YOU CHEATER!

SO YOU'RE POSING AS A FAN OF THE ENTIRE GROUP?

HE'S POLITELY WAVING ALL OF OUR COLORS.

I'LL TEACH HIM A LESSON.

HE REALLY IS ANNOYING.

I'VE DECIDED.

I'LL MAKE YOU LOVE ME.

AS LONG AS I'M AN IDOL,

I'LL MAKE YOU WAVE ONLY A WHITE GLOW STICK.

I'LL BE YOUR ONLY IDOL.

I REALLY WANT TO CHEER FOR HER.

HER EXPRESSION IS GETTING BETTER AND BETTER.

BOSS, ISN'T SHE GOOD, TOO?

AND NERDS WOULD ESPECIALLY GO FOR THE ONE IN THE MIDDLE. SHE'S THE LEAD GIRL, AND SHE'S GOOD AT SINGING.

THE THREE OF THEM WOULD'VE BEEN A STAR IN ANY OTHER GROUPS,

THEY'LL PROBABLY BE POPULAR, AFTER ALL.

オ
ォ
ォ
ォ

【推しの子】

CHEER アアアア

CHAPTER 39
JUST A LITTLE FUN JOB

【推しの子】 AKA AKASAKA x MENGO YOKOYARI

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THRILLED

THRILLED

I SAW A CUTE GIRL IN THE DRESSING ROOM EARLIER,

SO I'LL GO AND WATCH HER PERFORMANCE!

OH, THE HELLISH ONE...

IT'S HOT THERE, ISN'T IT?

THE STAR STAGE.

WHICH STAGE ARE THEY PERFORMING ON?

WHAT A FANGIRL.

HEH HEH HEH.

MANA LOVES CUTE GIRLS, HUH?

I WAS SO CAREFREE WHEN I WENT THERE,

NOT KNOW-
ING THAT
IT'D TURN
OUT TO BE
BRUTAL.

I USED
TO BE A
BIG FAN
OF IDOLS.

Sign:
Fifth Term
Audition

WHEN I
WAS 17, I
PASSED A
BIG-SCALE
AUDITION
AND JOINED
AN IDOL
GROUP.

WE WERE
ONE OF
OVER TEN
SISTER
GROUPS,

AND WE
WERE
FAIRLY
POPULAR.

AS AN IDOL, I THOUGHT I WAS QUITE SUCCESS-FUL.

AFTER ALL, IT WASN'T EASY TO STAND OUT IN A GROUP OF 200 PEOPLE.

SO I CHAL-LENGED MYSELF TO DO ALL KINDS OF THINGS.

AT FIRST, I WANTED TO GO HIGHER,

MAKING AN EFFORT WITH-OUT KNOWING WHAT THE RIGHT THING TO DO IS WAS LIKE STRUG-GLING IN THE DARKNESS,

WE DREW OUR FANS' ATTENTION,

AND WE HAD SO MUCH WORK.

BUT GRADU-ALLY,

WE BECAME SATISFIED WITH OUR CURRENT STATUS.

...IF I WAS REALLY OKAY WITH THAT...

AT SOME POINT I STARTED TO ASK MYSELF...

HOW-EVER,

OR WHEN I WASN'T GIVEN A CHANCE TO SAY A SINGLE WORD ON A SHOW.

...WHEN THEY ONLY GAVE ME A FEW LINES TO SING.

MAYBE IT WAS...

THERE WAS ONLY ONE BLURRY SHOT OF ME.

BUT WHEN MY FAMILY AND I WATCHED IT ON TV,

I ALSO PER-FORMED ON A BIG STAGE FOR THE NEW YEAR'S MUSIC PRO-GRAM ONCE,

OR PERHAPS,

IT WAS WHEN I SAW THESE NEW IDOLS AND WISHED THAT I COULD BE LIKE THEM.

SHOULD I...

CHEEEER

THOSE TIMES MADE ME REALIZE THAT...

OUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON HOW OBSESSED WE ARE WITH BEING AN IDOL.

JUST QUIT...

BEING AN IDOL?

I SNAPPED, RIGHT THERE AND THEN.

BEING AN IDOL WAS MY DREAM.

I THINK I DID WELL.

WELL,

I'LL BE 24 THIS YEAR.

ONCE IN A WHILE, I'D SIGN UP FOR ACTING JOBS...

...AND APPEARED IN VARIETY SHOWS.

I BECAME AN ENTER-TAINER,

AND SANG AND DANCED IN FRONT OF EVERYONE.

MY DREAM CAME TRUE RATHER QUICKLY.

ALL THAT REMAINS IS REALI-TY.

ONCE YOU GET USED TO IT, YOU'LL REALIZE THAT BEING AN IDOL IS NOTHING BUT A LITTLE FUN JOB.

AND WE HAVE COM-PETITIONS LIKE WE DO IN SOCIETY.

PERSONAL RELATION-SHIPS IN THIS WORLD ARE AS DIFFICULT AS THEY WERE AT SCHOOL,

ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THAT SHOP?

LEMME SHOW YOU THE REAL ROPPONGI!!

AND THERE WERE TIMES WHEN I CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF DARKNESS THAT LEFT ME TREMBLING WITH FEAR.

WHAT IS THAT TWEET?!

THE AGENCY'S REGULATIONS WERE TOUGH,

Graduates

BUT AT LEAST ONE PERSON LEAVES THE INDUSTRY EVERY MONTH.

NO ONE WOULD ACTUALLY QUIT IF IT WAS TRULY FUN,

ONLY A HANDFUL OF CHOSEN ONES...

...CAN MOVE FORWARD TO THE NEXT STEP,

...INSTEAD OF WAITING FOR THE DAY WHEN THEY DECLARE THAT MY TIME IS OVER.

I WANT TO DECIDE WHEN TO QUIT ON MY OWN...

WHAT SHOULD I DO AFTER I QUIT?

I HAVE NO SAVINGS AT ALL, SO I'D BETTER START WORKING RIGHT AWAY.

EVEN IF I CONTINUED ON THIS PATH, I DON'T THINK I'D FIND ANYTHING WORTH-WHILE.

...NEITHER THE TALENT NOR THE WILLPOW-ER FOR THAT.

BUT I HAVE...

I JUST DISAP-PEARED QUIETLY FROM THE WORLD...

I DIDN'T FEEL LIKE MOVING THE MOMENT I MADE MY DECISION.

...THAT GAVE ME SATIS-FACTION TO SOME DEGREE.

I THOUGHT ...

LOOKING AT THE IDOL WHO GAVE ME THAT EPIPHANY,

PLEASE...

...STAY THE WAY YOU ARE.

IT'S THE MOST DIFFICULT THING.

I LOVE CLOTHES.

I SHOULD PROBABLY FIND SOMETHING RELATED TO FASHION.

WHERE CAN I GET A JOB?

MANA SUZUSHIRO.

SHE'D BEEN AN ENTERTAINER FOR SIX YEARS.

SHE ANNOUNCED HER COMPLETE RETIREMENT FROM THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY TWO WEEKS LATER.

AND THEN STARTED WORKING FOR A MAJOR CLOTHING MANUFACTURER.

NO NEW INFORMATION ABOUT HER CAN BE FOUND ON THE INTERNET.

I'M BEAT.

YEAH...

OH, AQUA. YOU CAME, TOO?

HOW WAS OUR PER-FORMANCE?

!

...

Shirt: B Komachi

...

FROM NOW ON,

YOU'LL DO SOMETHING EVEN MORE AMAZING.

YOU DID WELL CONSIDER-ING IT WAS YOUR FIRST TIME ON STAGE..

WELL,

I CAN'T.

WHAT THE HECK? PRAISE US MORE.

GIVEN THAT, IT'D BE A WASTE IF I GIVE YOU HIGH SCORES NOW.

I SEE.

THAT'S NOT IT.

?

THEY DON'T SEEM TO GET ALONG, HUH?

THEY FINALLY...

...FEEL LIKE TALKING TO EACH OTHER AGAIN.

HEY, AQUA.

ARE THINGS GOING WELL BETWEEN YOU AND AKANE FROM MY LOVE?

BESIDES, WE'RE ONLY A COUPLE ***FOR WORK PURPOSES.***

SHE'S BEEN ASKING ME TO MEET UP AND TAKE PICTURES FOR HER INSTA-GRAM, THOUGH.

NO, I HAVEN'T MET HER SINCE THEN.

IS THAT SO?

WORK...?

HMPH!

OF COURSE!

IT WAS ONLY FOR THE SHOW, EH?

That happens!

...

THERE'S NO WAY AKANE KUROKAWA WOULD REALLY FALL FOR YOU!

WHACK

ARIMA-CHAN IS SUDDENLY GRINNING FROM EAR TO EAR...

BUT YOU SHOULDN'T TAKE THAT SERIOUSLY!

WHACK

I FEEL SORRY FOR YOU,

ARIMA-CHAN LIKES AQU-TAN, TOO...?!

WAIT, IS THAT HOW IT IS?!

MHEW

AKANE!!

WHICH OF YOU SHOULD I BE ROOT-ING FOR?!

Right Staff
Promotion

AKANE,

WE'VE CON-FIRMED YOUR NEXT JOB.

HUH?

IS THIS FOR REAL?

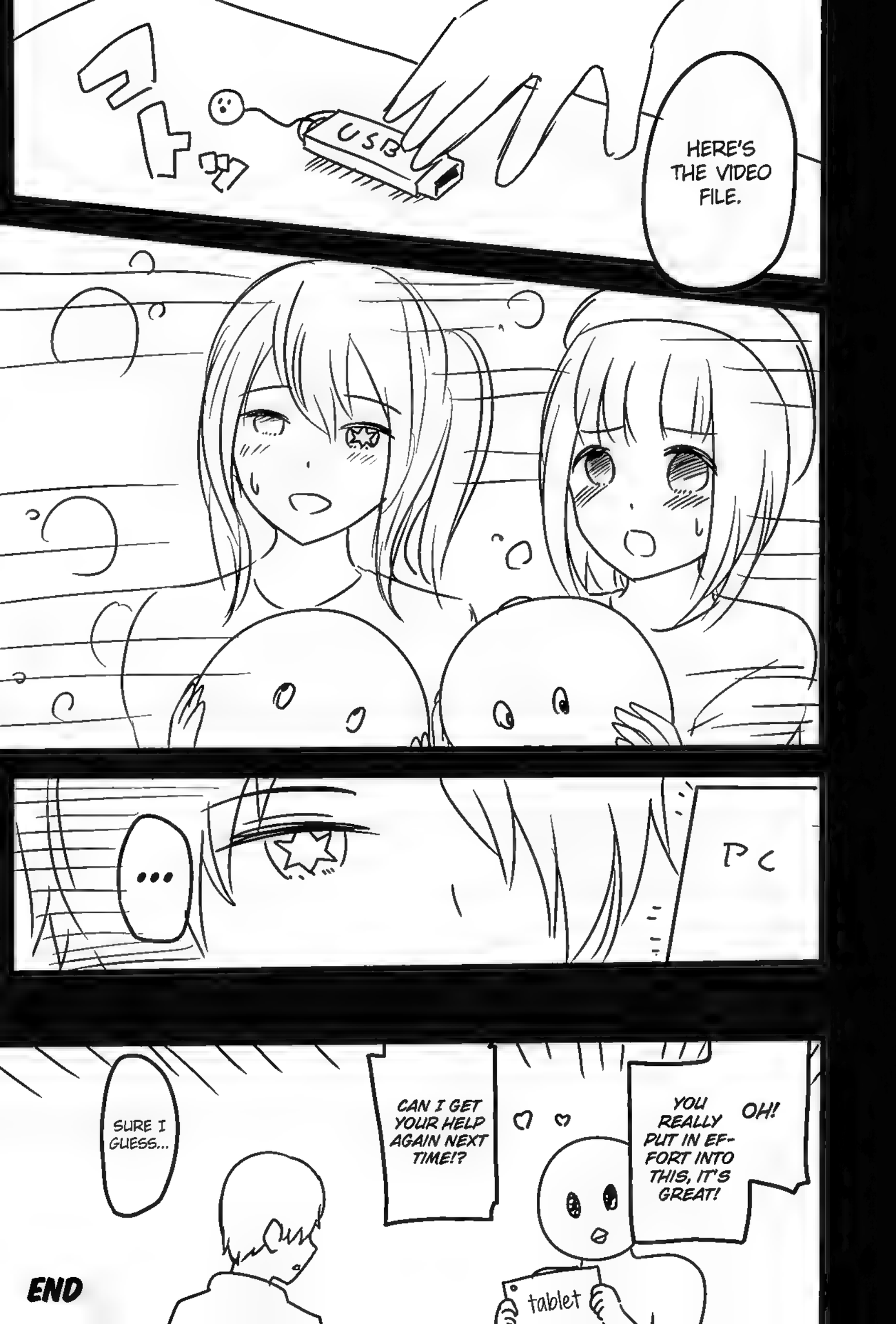
I CAN WORK...

...WITH AQUA-KUN AGAIN.

The Guy Who Wants to Work Backstage Meets the Muscled Chick

Sketch by Akasaka Aka

ONCE IN A WHILE, AGENCY STAFF ARE ASKED TO HELP WITH VIDEO EDITING.
STRAWBERRY PRODUCTIONS
STRAWBERRY PRODUCTIONS IS AN AGENCY OF WHICH MANY STREAMERS ARE AFFILIATED TO.
WHAT A SLAVE DRIVER...
YOU WILL, WON'T YOU?
AQUA, WANNA HELP OUT TODAY?
WELL, WHATEVER.
I'LL JUST GET IT DONE QUICKLY AND GO HOME...
PC
I HAVE ALREADY EDITED THE VIDEO SO COULD YOU JUST ADD THE SUBTITLES ACCORDING TO THE FORMAT?
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS GUY...
LEAVING HIS MASK ON EVEN AT HOME, WHAT A WEIRDO...
アクア
AH, THANKS FOR HELPING!


USB
HERE'S THE VIDEO FILE.
...
PC
SURE I GUESS...
CAN I GET YOUR HELP AGAIN NEXT TIME!?
YOU REALLY PUT IN EFFORT INTO THIS, IT'S GREAT!
OH!
tablet
END

YJC
DIGITAL
SHUEISHA YOUNG JUMP COMICS

【推しの子】
7巻

赤坂アカ
横槍メンゴ
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【推しの子】

赤坂アカ　横槍メンゴ

COVER DESIGN　MIKU HAKIBUCHI(POCKET)

背表紙・カバー折り返し

※表記はコミックス発売時のものになります。

本体・表紙」

※表記はコミックス発売当時のものになります。

本体・裏表紙」

※表記はコミックス発売当時のものになります。

【推しの子】

AKA AKASAKA x MENGO YOKOYARI

SO YOU'RE THE GUY BEHIND PIEYON'S MASK DURING OUR PRACTICE, HUH?

CHAPTER 40
SORE LOSER

...

WHY DID YOU DO THAT?

...YOU WOULDN'T EVEN TALK TO ME.

BE-CAUSE...

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THAT'S ALL?

THAT'S YOUR ONLY REASON?

...?

...

I WORE IT ONCE, SO I KNOW. IT WAS HARSH, RIGHT?

AND YOU MADE THAT CREEPY NOISE, TOO!

YOU WERE WILLING TO RUN AND DANCE BEHIND THE SHITTY HOT MASK JUST BECAUSE OF THAT?

CHUCKLE

CHUCKLE

CHUCKLE

WHAT A SURPRISING SKILL! THAT'S AMAZING!

BUT MAN, YOU'RE GOOD AT IMPERSON-ATING, EH?

I WAS JUST TRYING TO MAKE RUBY'S FIRST PER-FORMANCE A SUCCESS, THAT'S ALL.

YEAH, YEAH. THERE YOU GO AGAIN WITH YOUR SISTER'S COMPLEX MOVE.

WHAT A CONVE-NIENT EXCUSE.

YOU DIDN'T EVEN WANT TO TALK TO ME. HOW WERE YOU GOING TO LISTEN TO MY COACHING THEN?

SO WHAT?

CHUCKLE

Daisuki

SLAM

I'M LEAVING.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?

LET'S LEAVE IT AT THAT, THEN!

HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I DON'T GET IT.

SERI-OUSLY?

OH? YOU'RE RUNNING AWAY?

OH, PLEASE. YOU WANTED TO TALK TO ME SO BADLY THAT YOU EVEN DID SOME WEIRD STUFF, BUT NOW THAT I'VE FOUND OUT, YOU'RE FEEL-ING ASHAMED AND TRYING TO RUN AWAY?

I'M NOT RUNNING AWAY FROM ANYTHING.

AS YOU WISH, SIR!

TAKE A SEAT.

LET'S DISCUSS THIS THOROUGHLY SINCE YOU SEEM TO HAVE MISUNDERSTOOD THE WHOLE SITUATION.

I GET IT.

Daisuki

ARE YOU SURE? IT LOOKS QUITE THE *OPPOSITE* TO ME.

THEY SEEM TO HAVE *PATCHED THINGS UP.* I'M HAPPY FOR THEM.

HE WASN'T LIKE THAT BEFORE, THOUGH.

REALLY?

IF YOU DON'T PESTER HIM LIKE THAT, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP UP WITH HIM.

IT'S OKAY.

AQUA DOESN'T INTERACT WITH PEOPLE MUCH.

WELL, A LOT OF THINGS HAPPENED, AND HIS PERSONALITY GOT TWISTED.

OH, DEAR.

BUT WHEN HE'S WITH SENPAI,

HE BECOMES A LITTLE LIKE HE USED TO BE IN THE PAST.

AKANE...

YOU'VE GOT TO WORK HARDER...

HECK, YEAH!

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I WAS able TO OBTAIN THE PUBLISHING RIGHTS FOR A BIG SERIES!

東京ブレイド

Book: Tokyo Blade

Text: Tokyo Blade

東京ブレイド

NOW WE'RE DOING THE STAGE VERSION OF THIS POPULAR MANGA, *TOKYO BLADE*. THE STORY IS SO GOOD THAT IT CALMS A FUSSY BABY!

IT'S SOLD OVER 50 MILLION COPIES,

AND THE ANIMATED MOVIE WAS A HUGE HIT!

THAT'S THE ONE!

WHEN YOU SAID "STAGE," DID YOU MEAN THE 2.5D?

OH, I KNOW THIS SERIES.

MY DAUGHTER IS CRAZY ABOUT THE ANIME.

I HAVE A BIG BUDGET, SO I'M GONNA GO ALL-OUT!

THE STAGE WILL USE PROJECTION MAPPING TO RECREATE THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE ORIGINAL WORK...

...AND OUR BACKSTAGE CREW IS AMAZING!

'TWAS THE POWER OF MONEY, MAN.

FINANCIAL STATES IN THE THEATRICAL WORLD ARE HARSH, AFTER ALL.

YOU WERE ABLE TO PERSUADE KINDAICHI-SAN, EH?

ON TOP OF THAT, THE THEATRICAL COMPANY "LALA LAI" IS HELPING US, TOO.

OH, THAT'S HUGE.

IT SEEMS THAT AKANE KUROKAWA FROM LALA LAI IS IN ALREADY,

NEXT IS THE CASTING.

THAT SAID, SINCE YOU'RE GOOD AT THIS KIND OF THING,

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE?

SO WE HAVE TO FIND SOMEONE FROM ELSE-WHERE, TOO.

BUT WE NEED MORE GOOD-LOOKING GUYS AND GIRLS TO ATTRACT THE FANS.

UNFORTU-NATELY, THEY DON'T HAVE A LOT OF YOUNG CAST MEMBERS THERE,

THEY'RE QUITE PROMISING, YOU KNOW?

DO I?

IF ANY-THING, IT'S YOU WHO OWES ME, PAL.

I'M GIVING THE KIDS YOU'VE LOOKED AFTER A CHANCE TO GROW.

NO WAY!

I'LL INTRO-DUCE THEM TO YOU, BUT YOU'LL OWE ME ONE.

DEAL.

HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH ...

Liked by memmem_cho_o and others
akanecco_2323 My dream came true❤
#AquAka #Hairstyle #AreyouhungryLOL #Nosocialmediaboy

SO WE DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT IT FOR THE TIME BEING.

AT ANY RATE, THIS PHOTO WILL HELP CONVINCE OUR FANS THAT WE'RE A COUPLE,

I DON'T KNOW. IT'S OKAY, I GUESS?

We look so much better in the photo, don't we?

WHAT DO YOU THINK? IS IT GOOD?

...

DID THEY CONTACT YOU ABOUT IT YET?

ANYWAY,

MY TROUPE, LALA LAI, WILL BE THE CENTER OF THIS PROJECT, SO THEY ASKED ME ABOUT APPEARING IN IT, TOO.

ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT TOKYO BLADE?

YUP.

THE THEATRICAL COMPANY LALA LAI.

BUT I REMEMBER SEEING HER GIRLY FACE TURN INTO A WOMAN'S AT ONCE.

OBVIOUSLY, I DON'T KNOW WHO EXACTLY THE GUY WAS,

THE THEATRICAL COMPANY LALA LAI.

AND I SAID BEFORE, SHE STARTED ASKING FOR A GOOD PLACE TO EAT.

AFTER ATTENDING THE WORKSHOP THERE, SHE BEGAN TO TAKE CARE OF HER APPEARANCE...

THEY OFFERED ME THE ROLE OF *PRINCESS SAYA*.

YOURS MUST HAVE BEEN *TOUKI*, HUH?

YEAH, OF COURSE THEY DID.

RIGHT!

THESE TWO CHARACTERS ARE A *COUPLE*.

I'M SURE THEY KEPT THAT IN MIND WHEN THEY WERE CASTING US.

IS THAT EVEN POSSIBLE? I THOUGHT THERE WAS A HIGH DEMAND FOR BL IN 2.5D?

THERE ARE A LOT OF STRAIGHT COUPLES IN THE ORIGINAL WORK,

THOUGH OBVIOUSLY, MOST OF THE FEMALE AUDIENCE ENJOY SEEING BL PAIRINGS.

TOUKI IS A SECONDARY CHARACTER, BUT HIS ARC HAS A LOT OF ROMANTIC COMEDY ELEMENTS, SO HE HAS QUITE A NUMBER OF MALE FANS.

EVERY WEEK, THEY'LL TALK ABOUT WHETHER HE'LL END UP WITH THE HEROINE OR HIS ALLY ENTHUSIASTICALLY.

...TSURUGI, RIGHT?

TOUKI'S ALLY IS...

IT'S ME.

I WONDER WHO IT'LL BE.

I'M SURE THEY'VE CASTED SOMEONE TO PLAY THIS CHARACTER ALREADY.

DRINK ME!

ARIMA.

JUST SAVE THE PICTURES YOU TOOK OUTSIDE AND POST THEM *LATER*.

IT MIGHT LEAD YOU TO BEING STALKED BY VICIOUS FANS, YOU KNOW?

YOU'D BETTER STOP POSTING IN REAL TIME.

YOU'RE PLAYING TSURUGI, KANA-CHAN?

YOU DON'T WANT TO GET INTO SOME SHITTY CONFLICT AGAIN AND TROUBLE EVERYONE, DO YOU?

JEEZ, YOU SURE HAVEN'T LEARNED YOUR LESSON.

AKANE?

I THOUGHT FOR SURE THAT YOU'D QUIT BEING AN ACTRESS.

HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE OUR LAST RIVALRY?

YOU'RE AN IDOL NOW, RIGHT?

Isn't that nice?

ARIMA?

AND YOU SEEM TO HAVE BECOME POPULAR BY SELLING OFF YOUR PRIVATE LIFE.

OH! THAT REMINDS ME... YOU APPEARED IN A DATING SHOW RECENTLY, DIDN'T YOU?

YOU'VE BEEN STUCK DOING THEATER WORK THAT DOESN'T EVEN PAY WELL. AREN'T YOU HELPLESS?

SEE YA.

...

IF YOU'RE GOING TO CONTINUE DATING FOR WORK PURPOSES, YOU'D BETTER MOVE SOMEWHERE ELSE.

I'M JUST HERE TO WARN YOU SINCE I WAS NEARBY, ANYWAY.

OH, WELL.

UM, YOU KNOW EACH OTHER?

WE'RE THE SAME AGE AND HAVE BEEN IN THIS INDUSTRY SINCE WE WERE BOTH CHILD ACTORS.

HOW COULD WE NOT KNOW EACH OTHER?

WELL...

YOU SHOULD GET ALONG WITH HER, THEN.

I CAN'T!

SHE'S BEEN TAKING THE ROLES I'VE WANTED TO PLAY, ONE AFTER ANOTHER.

IMAGINE HOW IT FEELS LIKE...

...TO BE AN ACTRESS WHO WAS BORN IN THE SAME YEAR AS THAT PRODIGY.

BUT...

I'M NOT GOING TO LOSE NOW.

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR A CHANCE TO AVENGE MYSELF, AND THAT TIME HAS FINALLY COME.

I'M NOT GOING TO LOSE...

HEH

HEH

HEH

HEH

EVEN WHEN SHE WAS BUSY SING-ING THAT STUPID BELL PEPPER EXERCISES SONG,

I'VE BEEN PRACTIC-ING NON-STOP.

ACTORS...

I WON'T LOSE.

ABSO-LUTELY NOT.

...ARE SORE LOSERS, HUH?

THE FORMER CHILD ACTOR WHO WAS *ONCE* CALLED A GENIUS...

...AND THE ACTRESS WHO IS CALLED A GENIUS *NOW*...

...ARE GOING TO CONFRONT EACH OTHER HERE. KABURAGI-CHAN SURE IS CLEVER YET HARSH.

THE STAGE PLAY OF *TOKYO BLADE*.

PERSON-ALLY, I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.

The representative of the event operating company Magic Flow

Sumiaki Raida (35)

Presented by

赤坂アカ × 横槍メンゴ

【推しの子】

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Next Vol.5

2021.08.18 Wed.

発売予定。